

002

MARVEL

HOUSER

SILVA

ROSENBERG

JAMES PATTERSON

MAX RIDE

ULTIMATE FLIGHT



MAXIMUM RIDE DOESN'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HER PAST.

SHE KNOWS ABOUT THE **LAB** WHERE SHE WAS GIVEN WINGS AND THE ABILITY TO FLY. SHE KNOWS ABOUT **JEB**, THE MAN WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR EXPERIMENTING ON HER. SHE KNOWS THAT SHE HAS TO PROTECT THE REST OF **THE FLOCK** -- FANG, NUDGE, IGGY, GASMAN, AND ANGEL -- AT ALL COSTS.

AND SHE KNOWS THAT SHE HAS ONE MISSION: TO SAVE THE WORLD.

JAMES PATTERSON

MAX RIDE

ULTIMATE FLIGHT

ADAPTED FROM THE NOVEL, *MAXIMUM RIDE: SCHOOL'S OUT FOREVER*, BY JAMES PATTERSON



AFTER STEALING THEIR FILES FROM THE LAB, **MAXIMUM RIDE** IS ON A HUNT TO FIND **THE FLOCK'S** BIOLOGICAL FAMILIES.

BUT AFTER A BRUTAL FIGHT WITH **ARI** AND THE **ERASERS**, **FANG** WAS HOSPITALIZED. AT THE HOSPITAL, **THE FLOCK** WAS MET BY AN FBI AGENT NAMED, **ANNE**. ANNE ALREADY KNEW ABOUT THEIR POWERS AND THE LAB WHERE THE FLOCK ESCAPED FROM AND OFFERED HER HOUSE AS A PLACE TO REST UP WHILE FANG RECOVERED.

ANNE'S FARMHOUSE WAS IDYLIC -- ENOUGH FOOD, LOTS OF SPACE TO FLY AROUND, AND A WARM, SAFE ENVIRONMENT. BUT THERE WAS ONE CATCH...

...ANNE WANTS TO SEND THE KIDS TO SCHOOL, REAL SCHOOL, FOR THE FIRST TIME!

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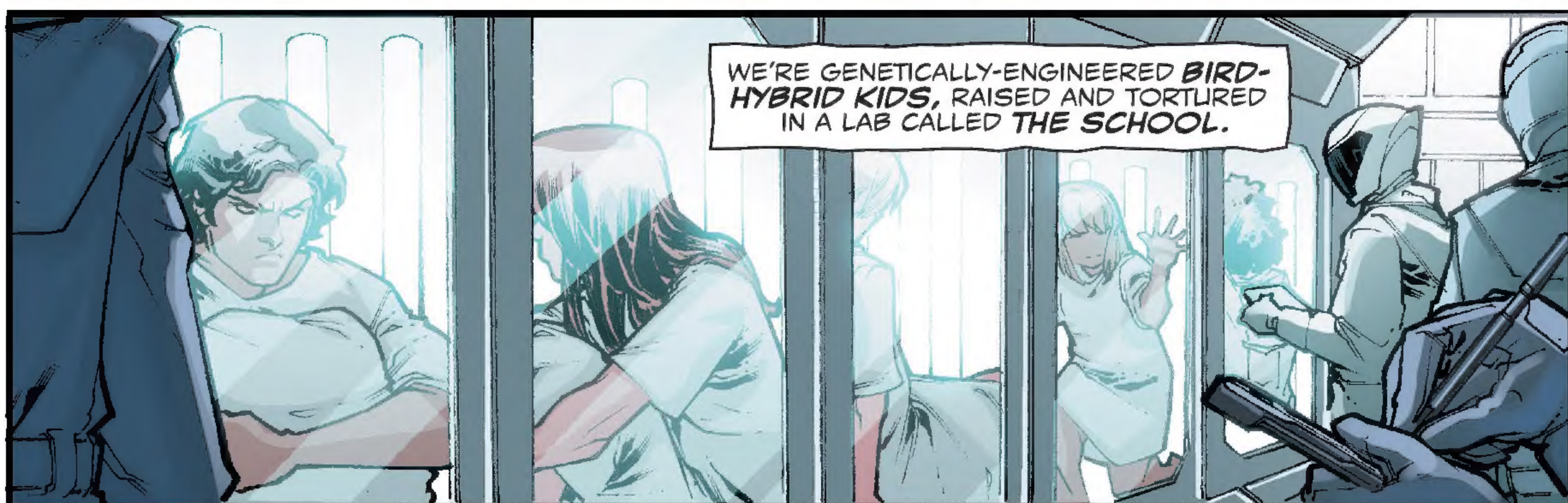
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MY FAMILY AND I ARE ABOUT AS FAR AWAY FROM **NORMAL** AS YOU CAN GET.



WE'RE GENETICALLY-ENGINEERED **BIRD-HYBRID KIDS**, RAISED AND TORTURED IN A LAB CALLED **THE SCHOOL**.



AFTER WE ESCAPED, WE WERE HUNTED BY MONSTER FREAKS CALLED **ERASERS**. HAD TO FIGHT JUST TO STAY ALIVE.



SOME FIGHTS WERE HARDER THAN OTHERS.

BUT DESPITE ALL THE FEAR, THE BRUTALITY, THE BETRAYALS, WE DID HAVE ONE THING GOING FOR US...

WOODBROOK ACADEMY.

...WE
WERE NEVER
BORED.

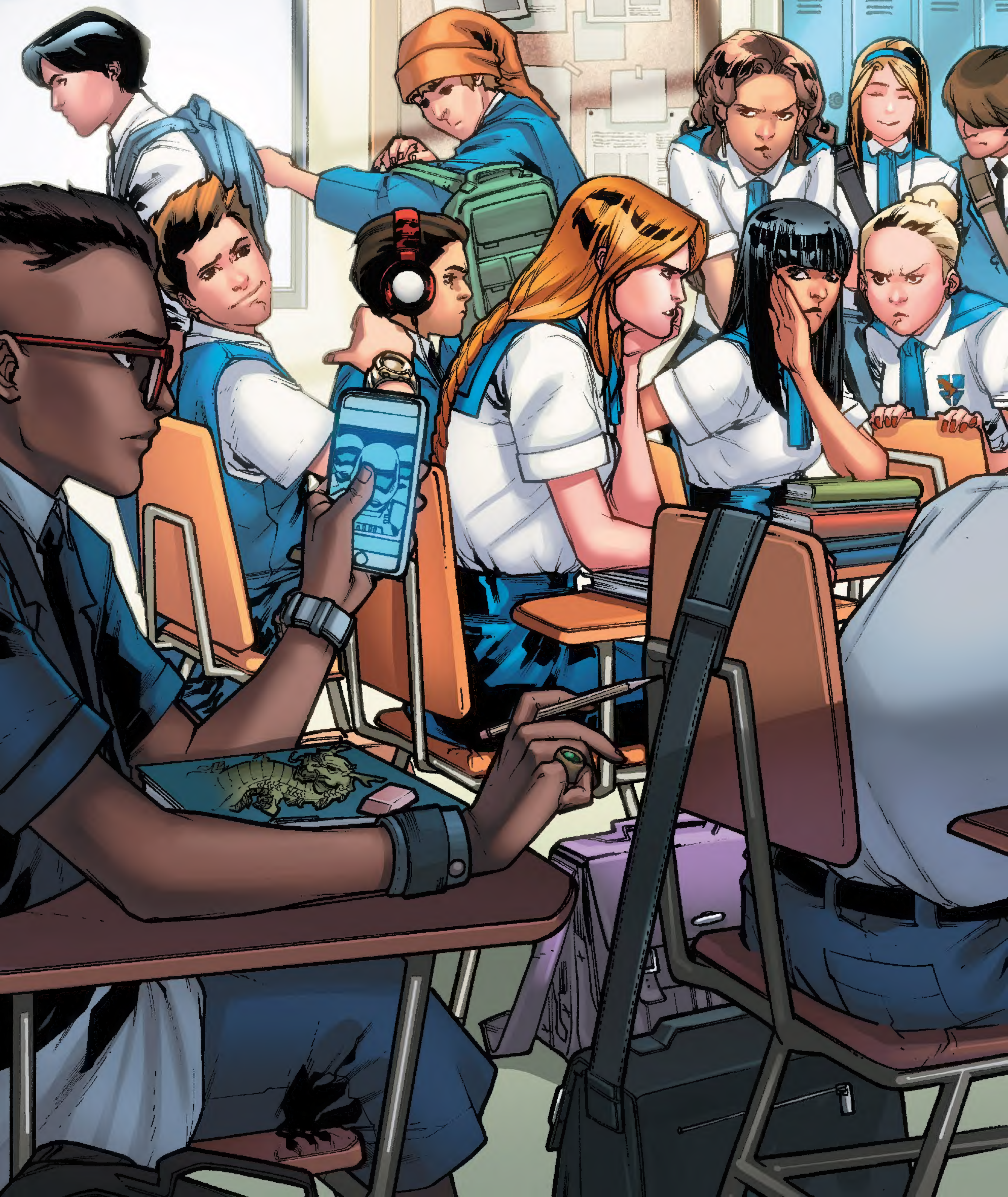
THE SCIENTISTS
IN THE LAB
MAY HAVE
EXPERIMENTED
ON US, BUT THEY
ALSO MADE
SURE WE WERE
EDUCATED.

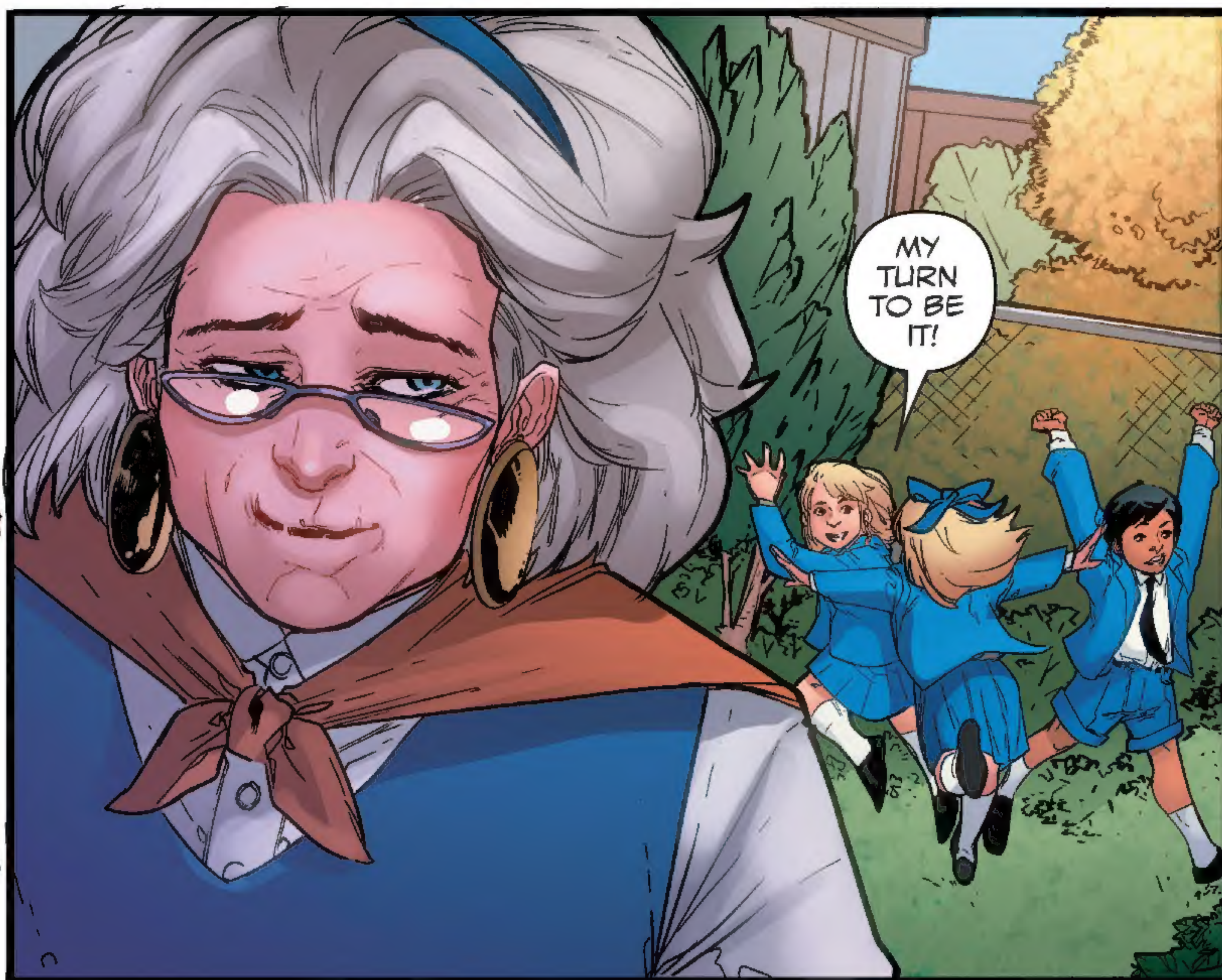
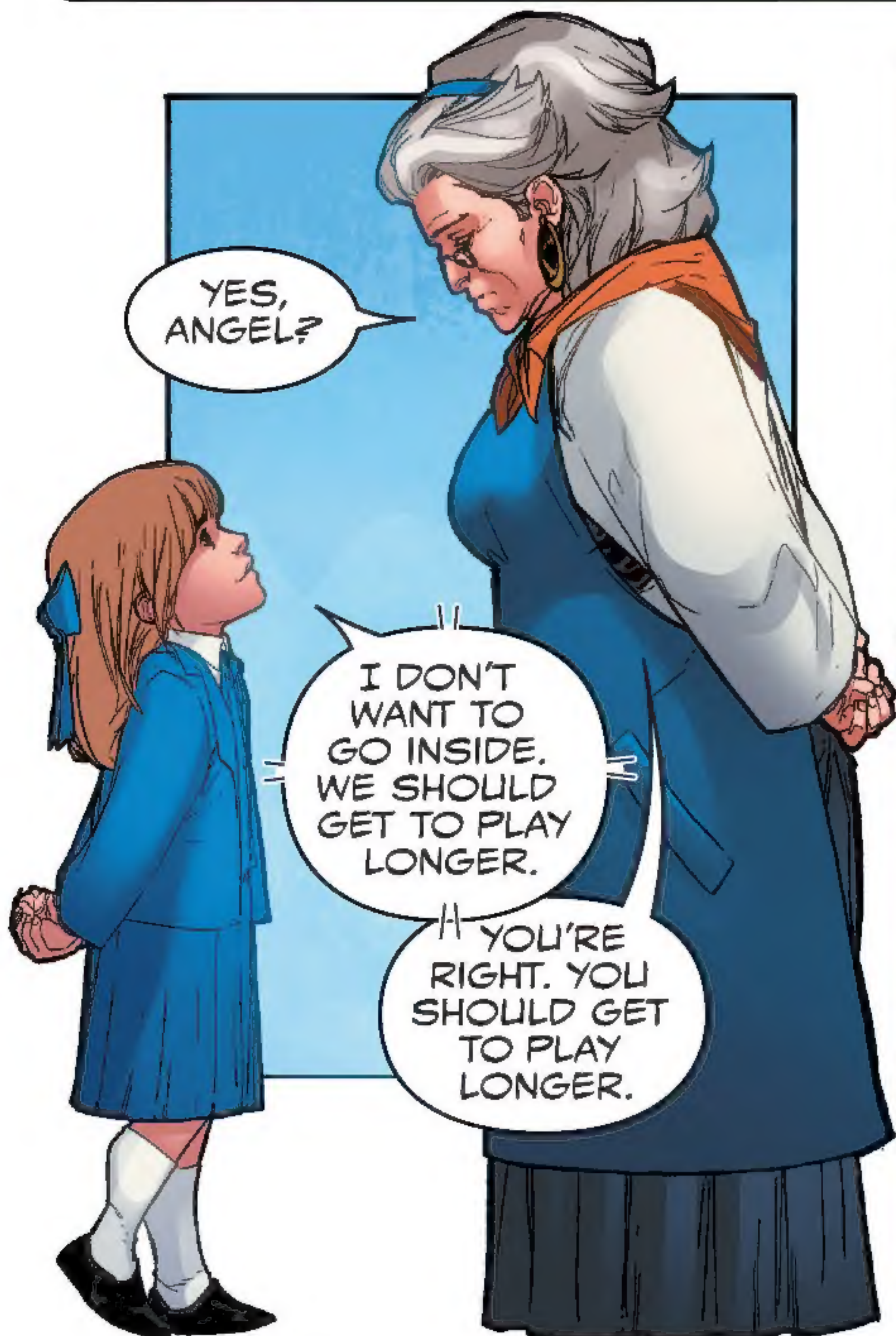
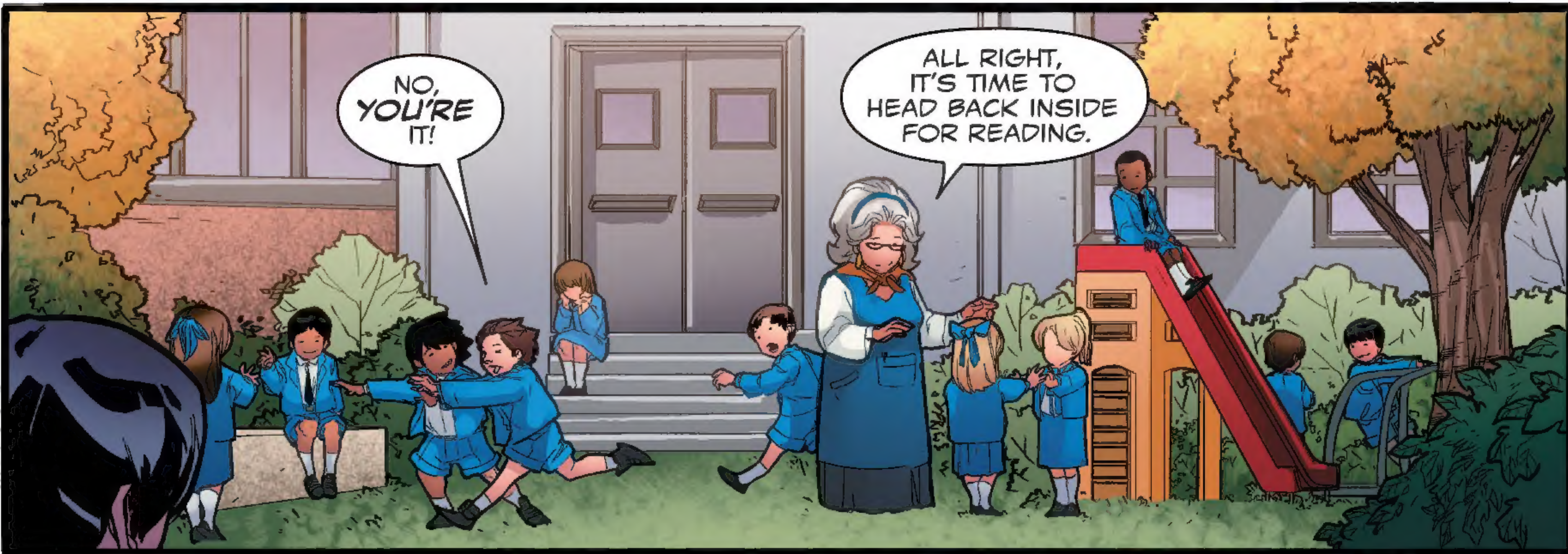
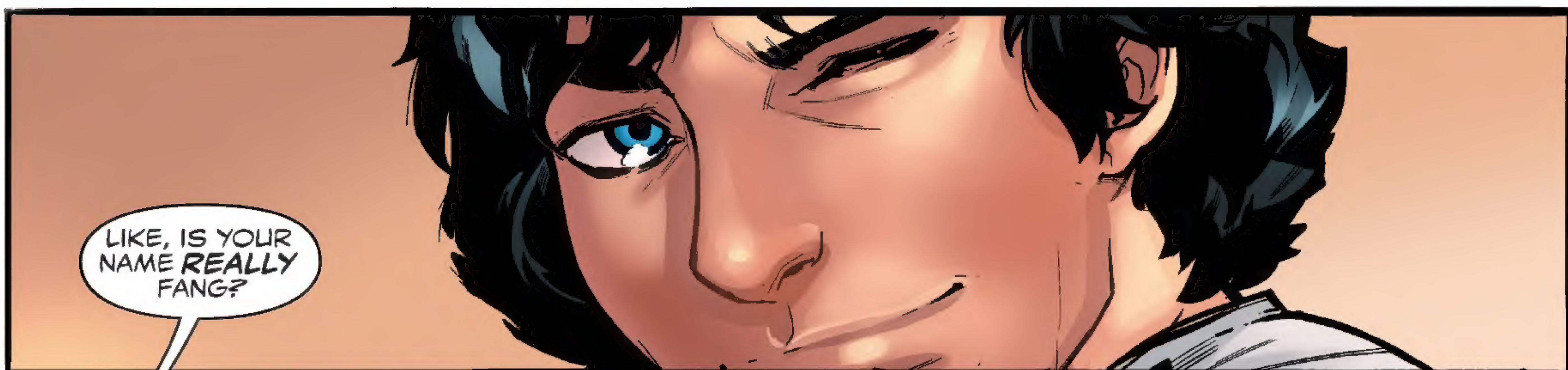
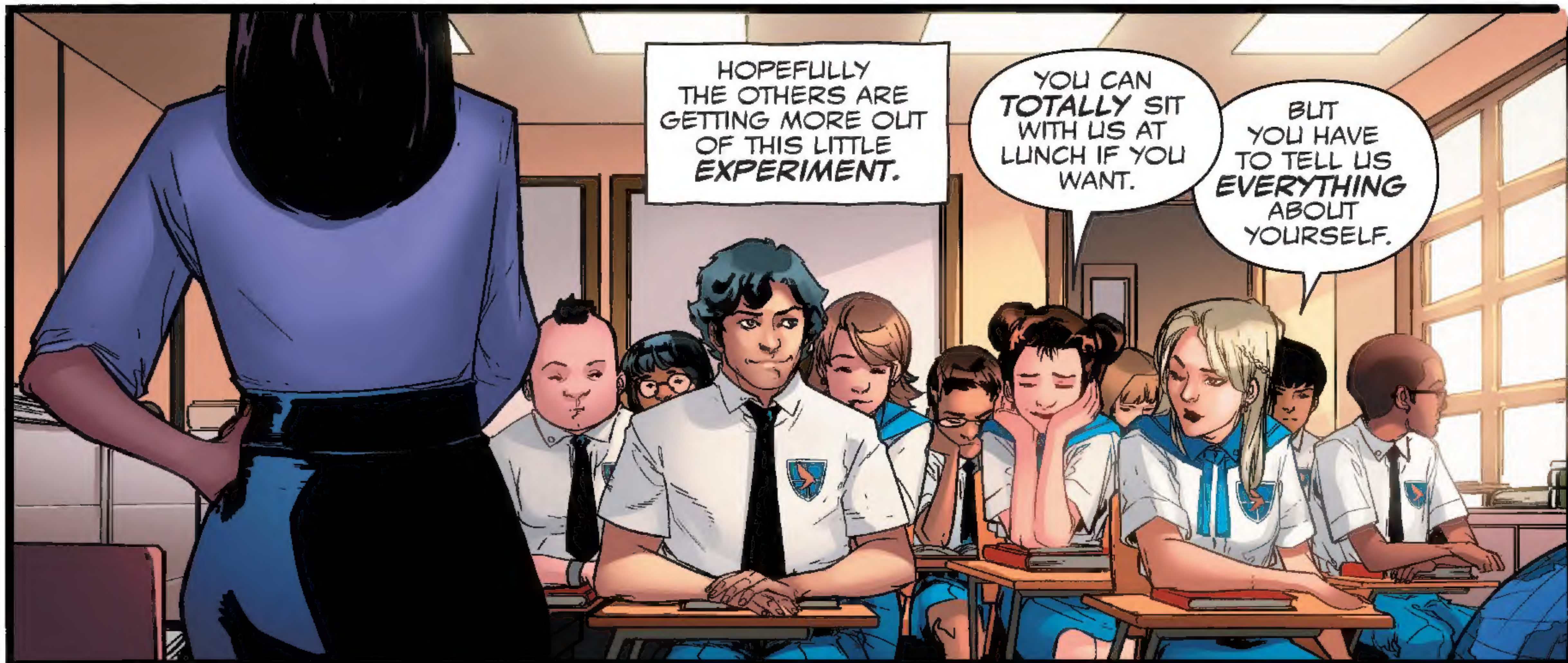
SO FAR IN
NORMAL KIDS'
SCHOOL? IT'S
ALL THINGS
I KNOW
ALREADY.

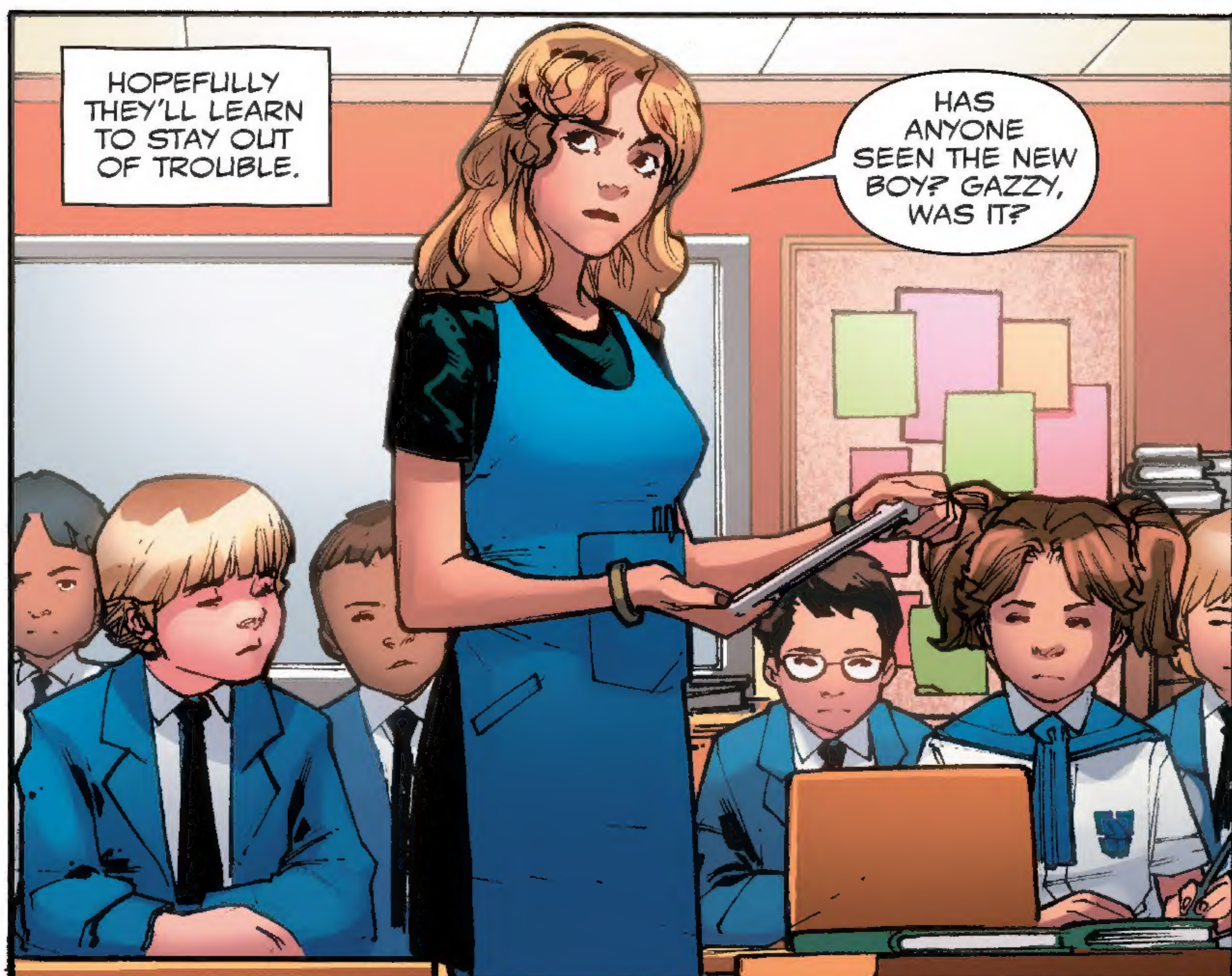
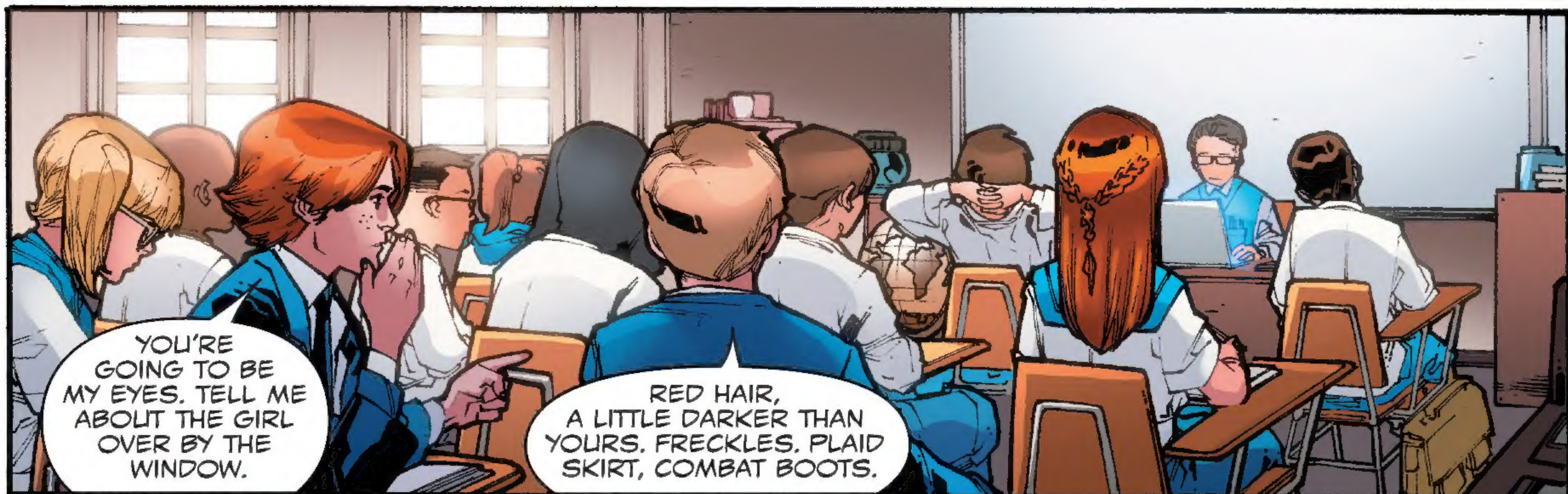
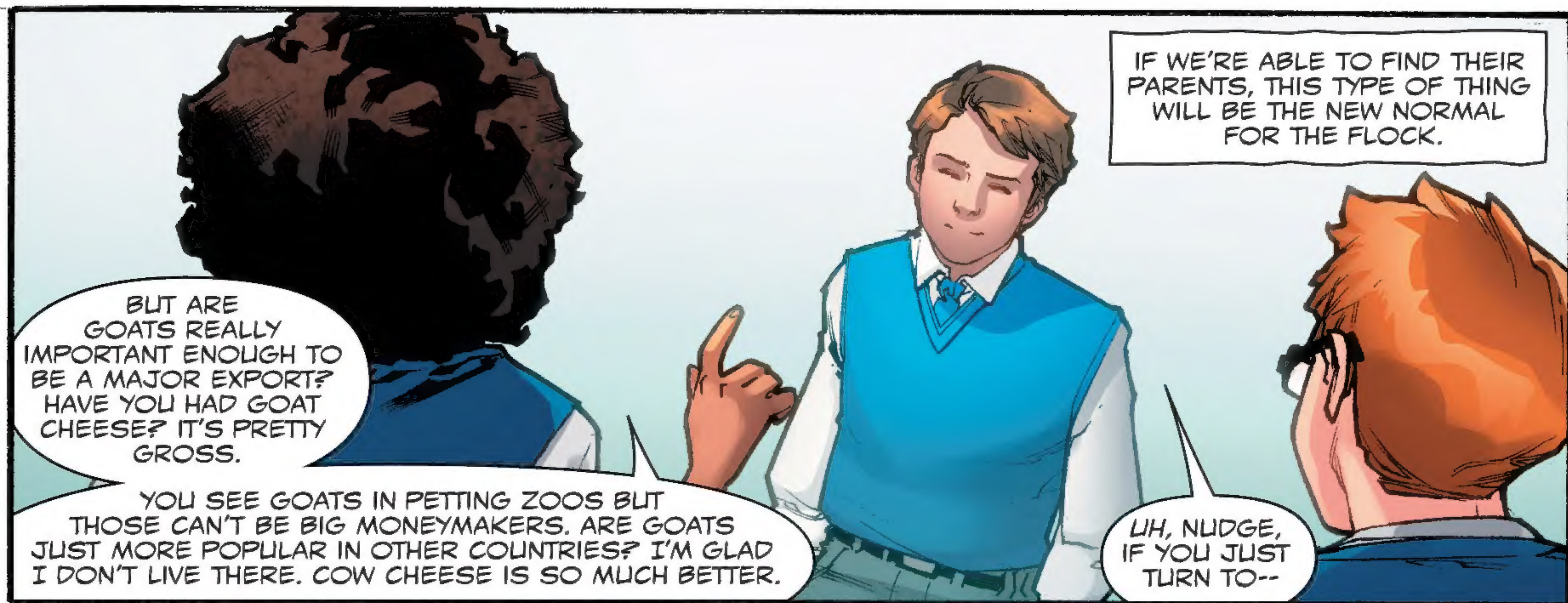
AND ALL THE SOCIAL
STUFF IS WEIRD. AM
I SUPPOSED TO
BE WORRIED ABOUT
THOSE GOSSIPERS
OVER THERE?

UNLESS THEY'RE
TRYING TO RIP MY THROAT
OUT, AS IN **LITERALLY**, I
COULDN'T CARE LESS.

I ALMOST WISH THEY'D
TRY. AT LEAST IT WOULD
MAKE THINGS INTERESTING
FOR A FEW SECONDS.









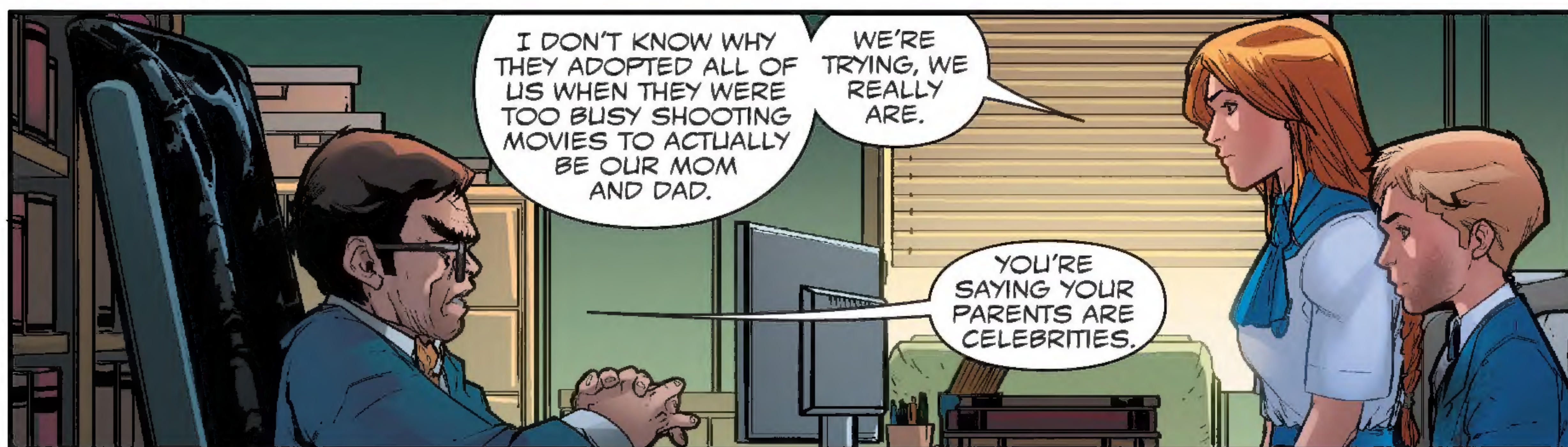


I'M NOT SURE WHAT YOUR LAST SCHOOL WAS LIKE, BUT HERE AT WOODBROOK, WE HAVE ZERO TOLERANCE FOR **SMOKE BOMBS**.

WELL, WE GOT TO DO WHATEVER WE WANTED IN L.A.--FAMOUS PARENTS AND ALL.

THE NANNIES WERE AFRAID THEY'D GET FIRED IF THEY DISCIPLINED US.

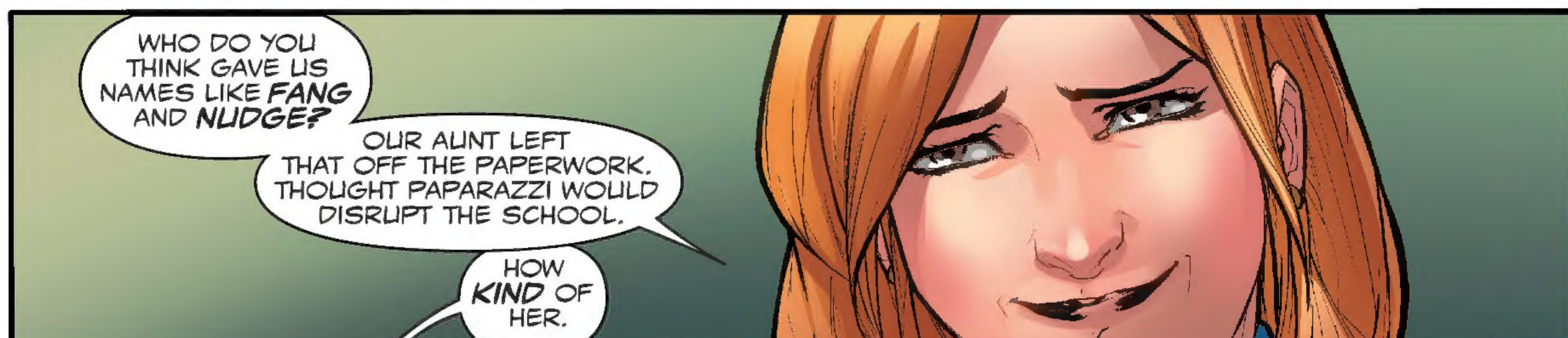
I THOUGHT WE'D HAVE MORE TIME TO FLESH OUT THE COVER STORY.



I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY ADOPTED ALL OF US WHEN THEY WERE TOO BUSY SHOOTING MOVIES TO ACTUALLY BE OUR MOM AND DAD.

WE'RE TRYING, WE REALLY ARE.

YOU'RE SAYING YOUR PARENTS ARE CELEBRITIES.



WHO DO YOU THINK GAVE US NAMES LIKE **FANG** AND **NUDGE**?

OUR AUNT LEFT THAT OFF THE PAPERWORK. THOUGHT PAPARAZZI WOULD DISRUPT THE SCHOOL.

HOW KIND OF HER.



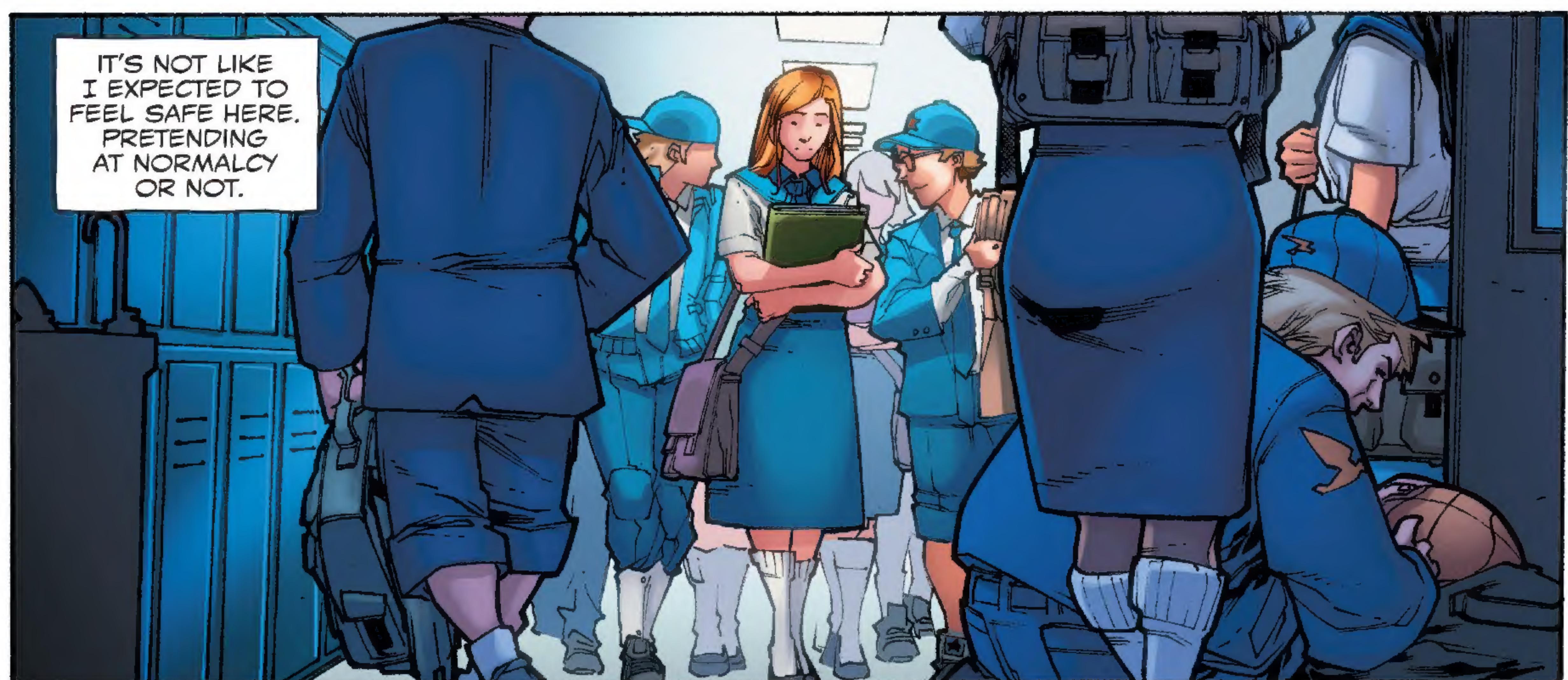
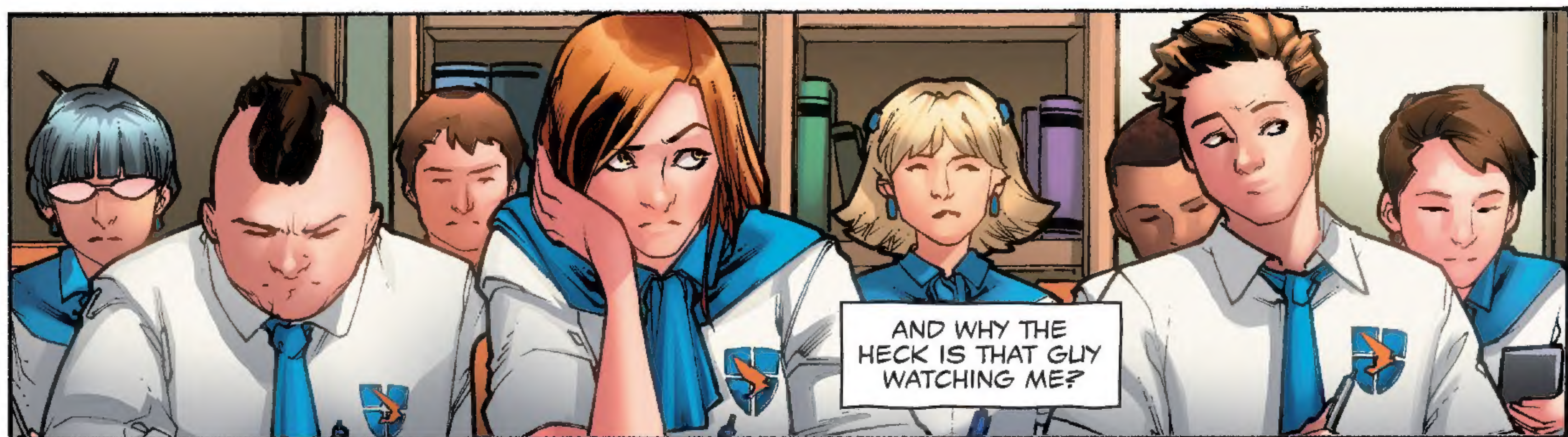
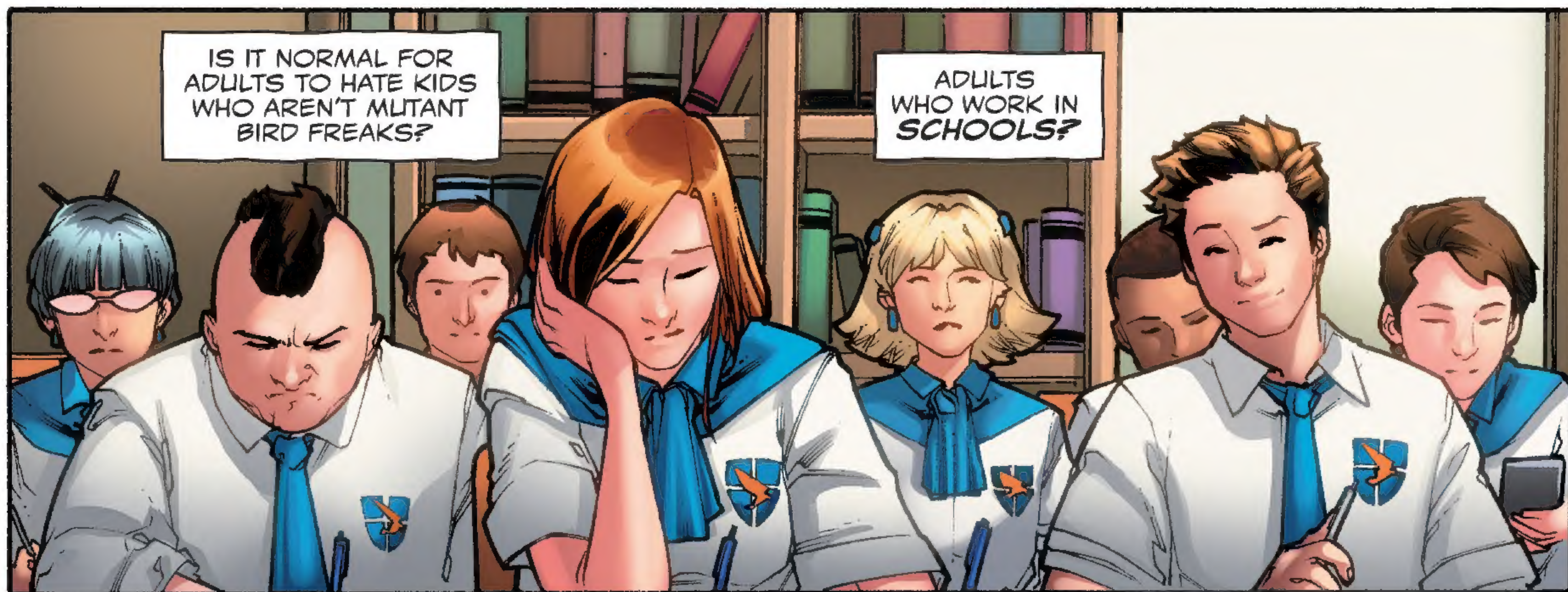
I DON'T CARE WHAT KIND OF SPOILED, DESTRUCTIVE BRATS YOU WERE BACK IN CALIFORNIA. YOU'RE IN MY SCHOOL NOW AND I WON'T TOLERATE IT.

ANY MORE TROUBLE FROM ANY OF YOUR SIBLINGS AND YOU'RE FINISHED. UNDERSTOOD?

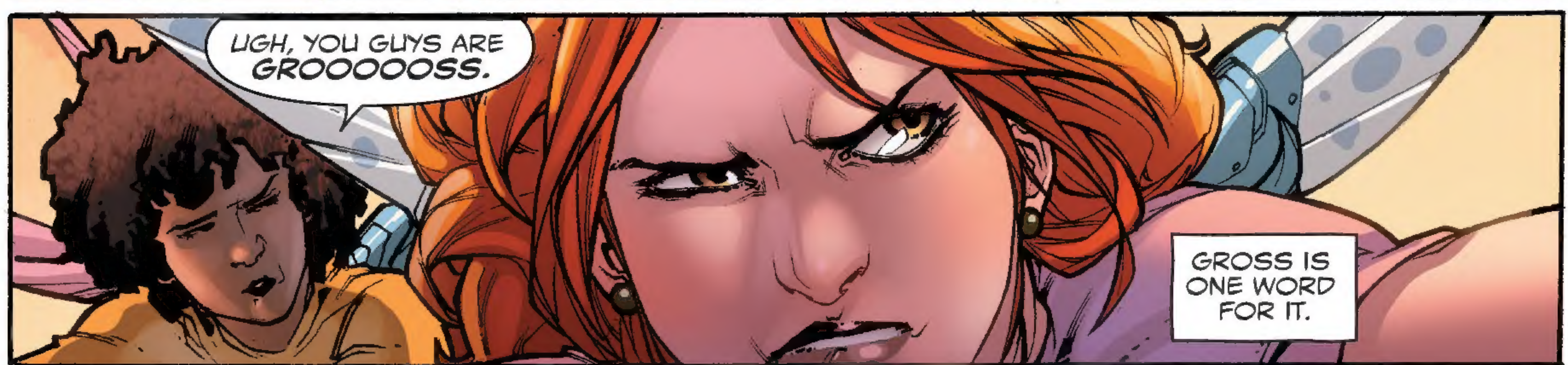
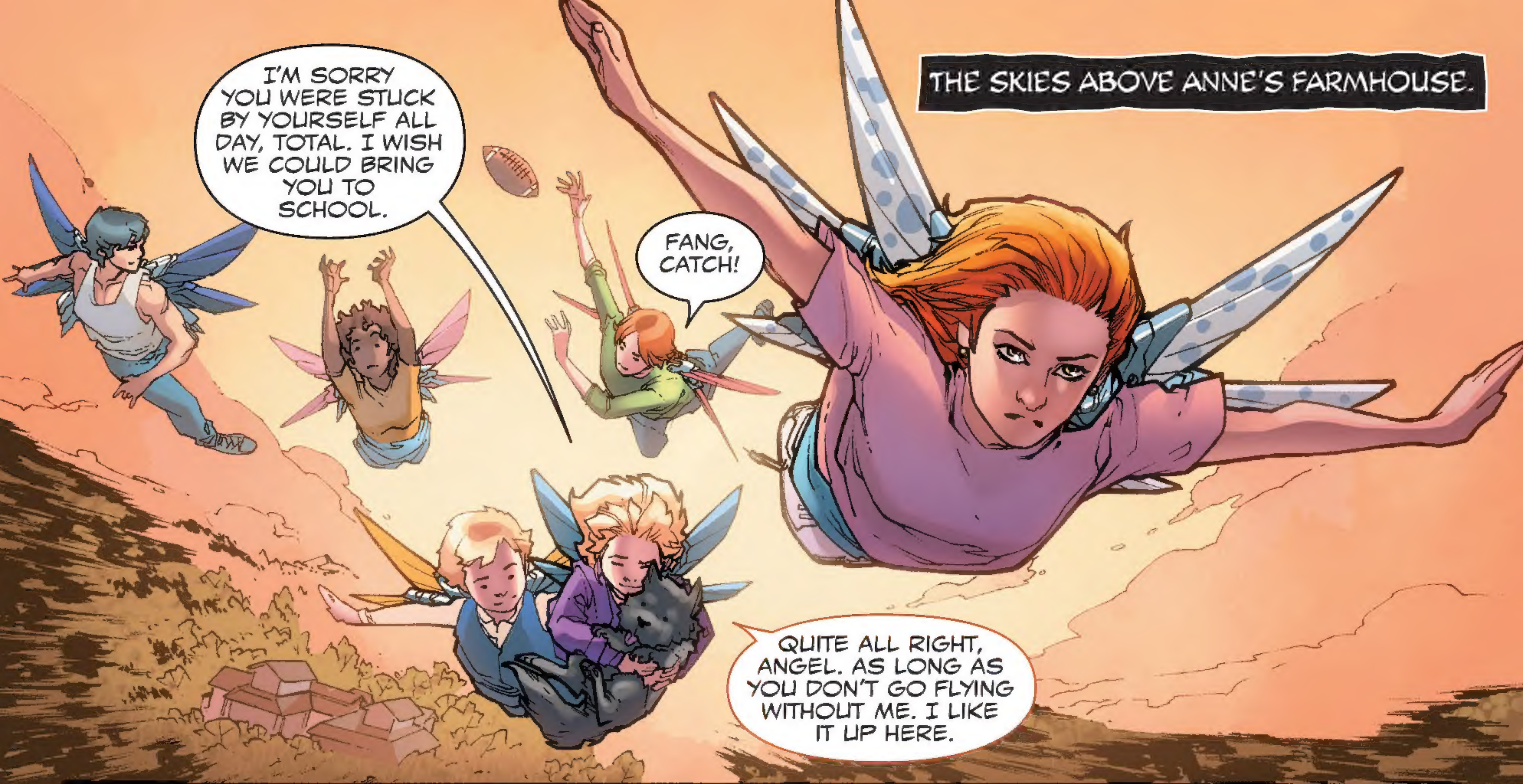


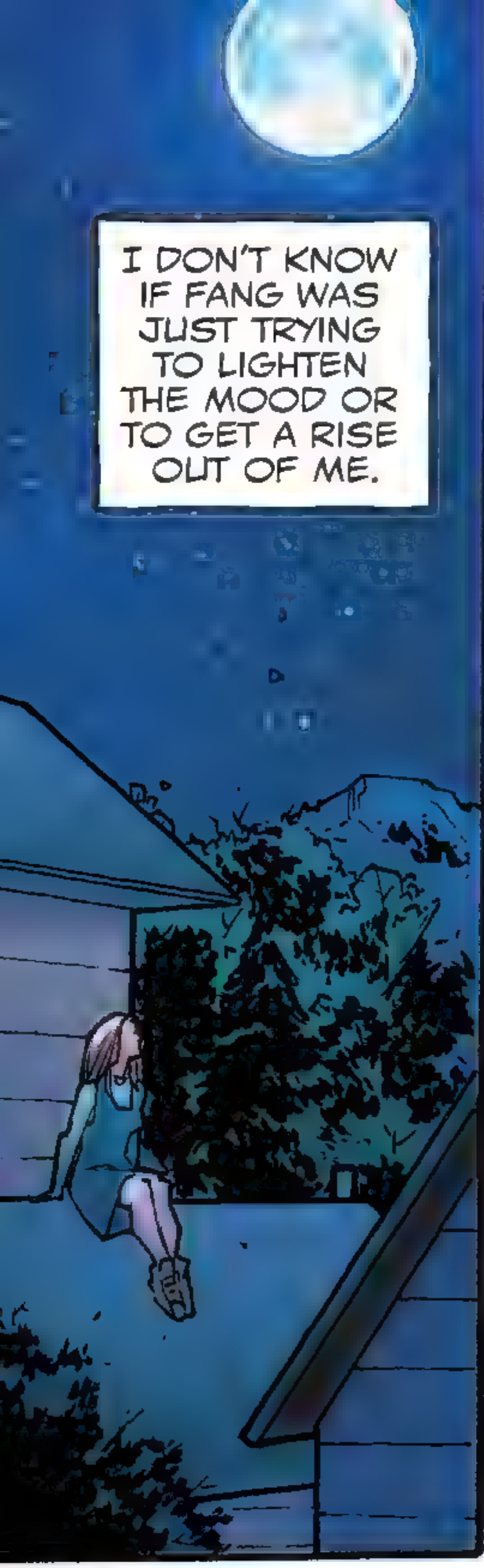
I UNDERSTAND BEING MAD ABOUT ALL THIS. BUT I'D SWEAR PRINCIPAL ANDERS ACTUALLY **HATES** US.

OF COURSE, SIR.



THE SKIES ABOVE ANNE'S FARMHOUSE.





I DON'T KNOW
IF FANG WAS
JUST TRYING
TO LIGHTEN
THE MOOD OR
TO GET A RISE
OUT OF ME.

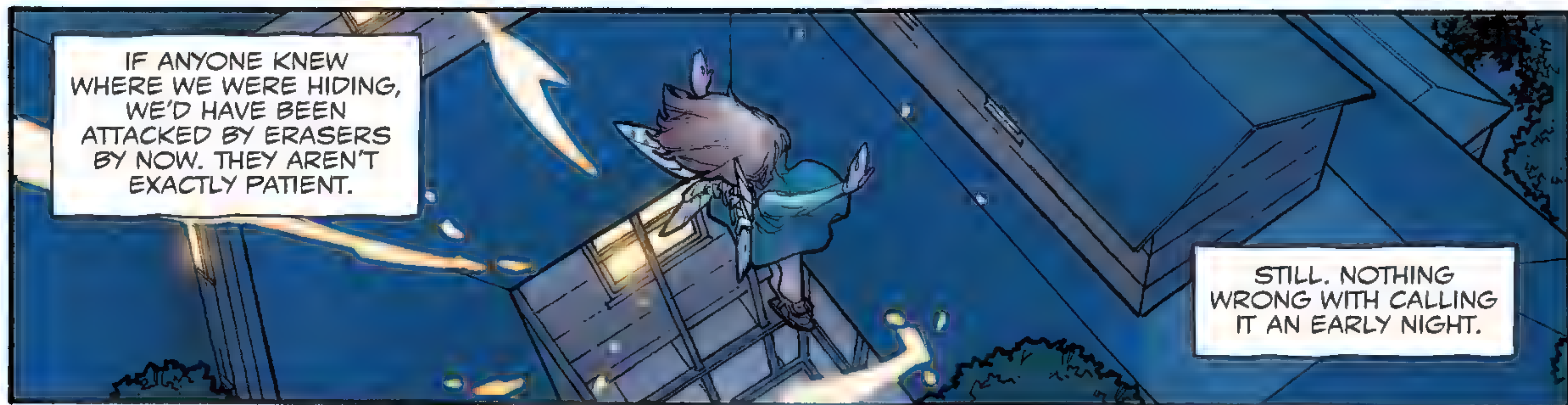


IT'S NOT
LIKE I CARE
WHAT HE DOES.
DO I? MORE
IMPORTANT
THINGS TO
WORRY
ABOUT.



LIKE WHY
DO I FEEL
SOMEONE'S
WATCHING
ME...

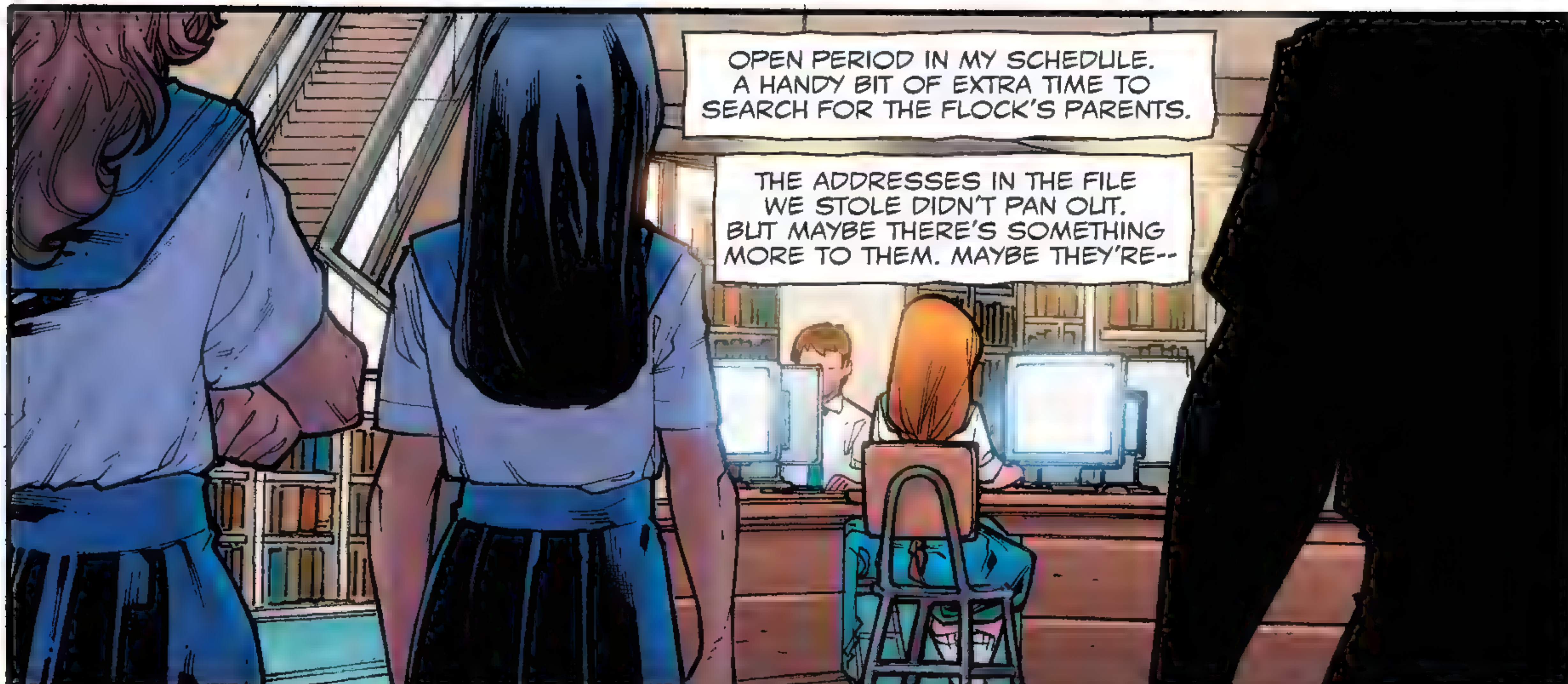
...EVEN
UP HERE?



IF ANYONE KNEW
WHERE WE WERE HIDING,
WE'D HAVE BEEN
ATTACKED BY ERASERS
BY NOW. THEY AREN'T
EXACTLY PATIENT.

STILL. NOTHING
WRONG WITH CALLING
IT AN EARLY NIGHT.





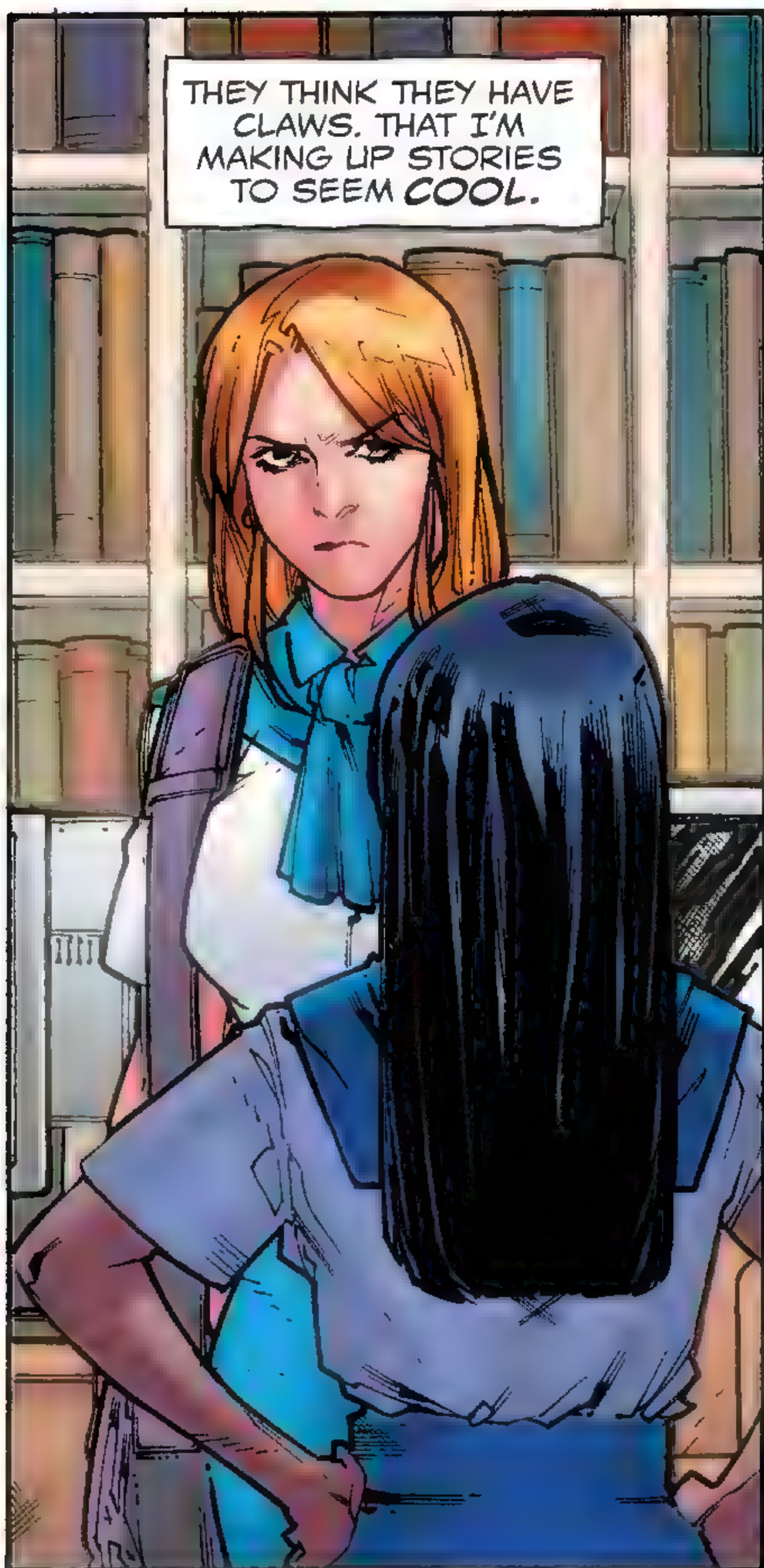
OPEN PERIOD IN MY SCHEDULE.
A HANDY BIT OF EXTRA TIME TO
SEARCH FOR THE FLOCK'S PARENTS.

THE ADDRESSES IN THE FILE
WE STOLE DIDN'T PAN OUT.
BUT MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING
MORE TO THEM. MAYBE THEY'RE--

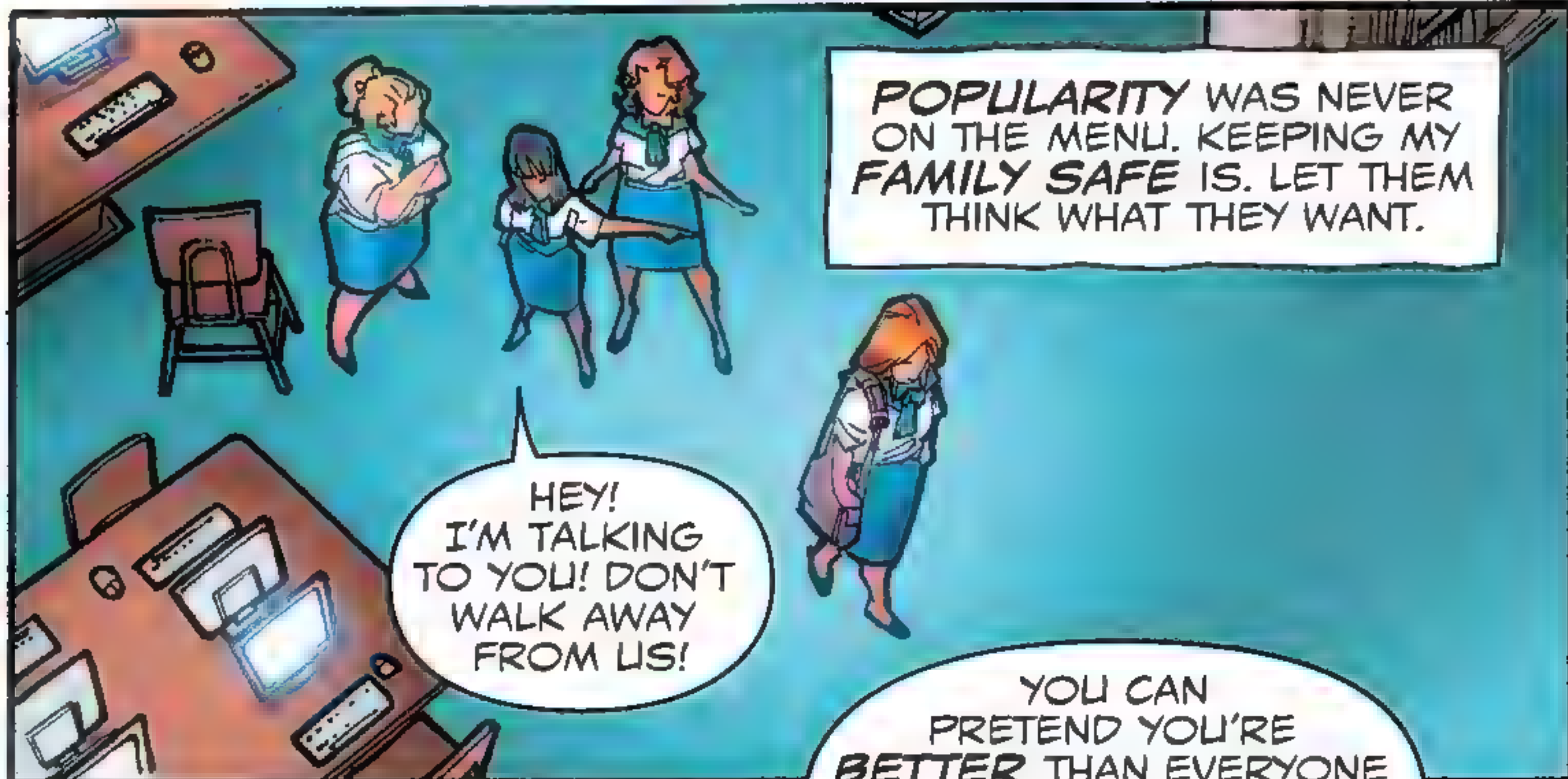


--OH, JOY.

WELL,
IF IT ISN'T THE
NEW GIRL. WHAT
WAS THAT CRAP
YOU WERE TELLING
PEOPLE? SECRET
CELEB MOMMY
AND DADDY?



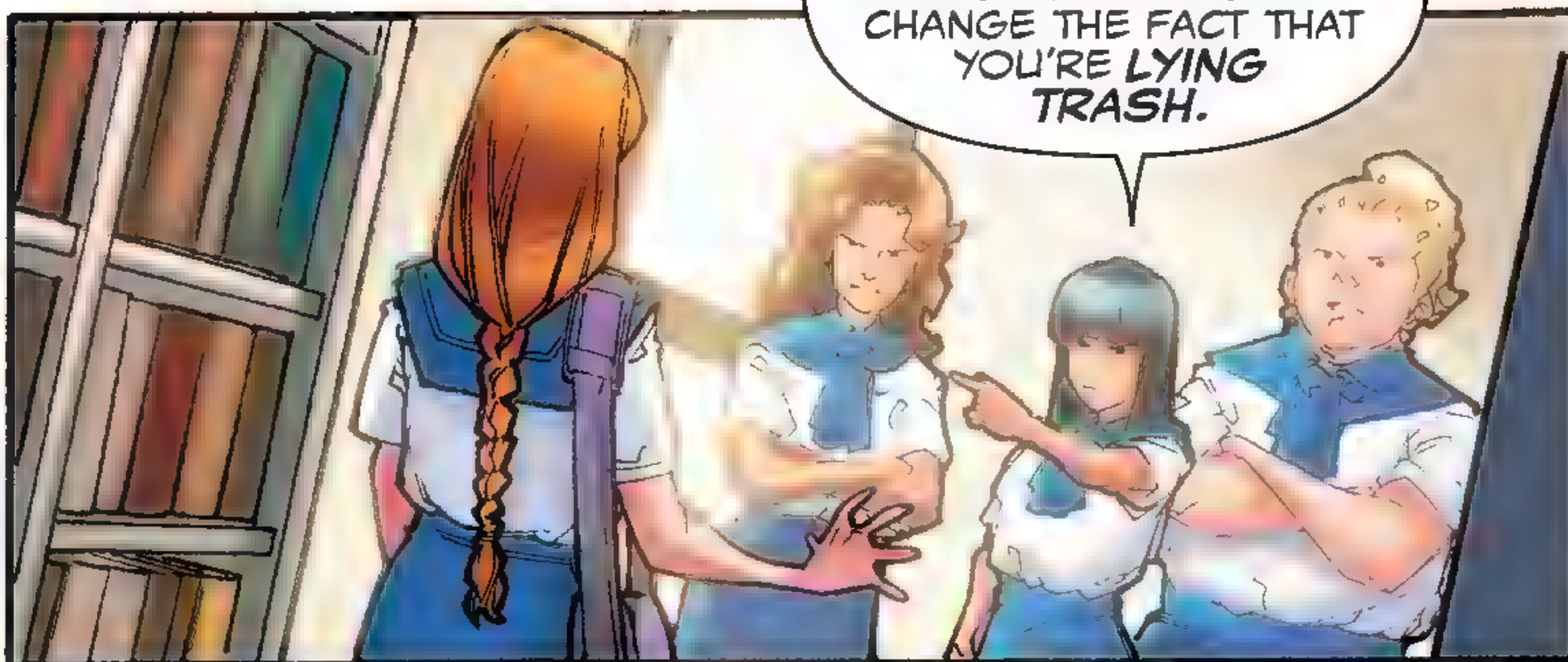
THEY THINK THEY HAVE
CLAWS. THAT I'M
MAKING UP STORIES
TO SEEM **COOL**.



POPULARITY WAS NEVER
ON THE MENU. KEEPING MY
FAMILY SAFE IS. LET THEM
THINK WHAT THEY WANT.

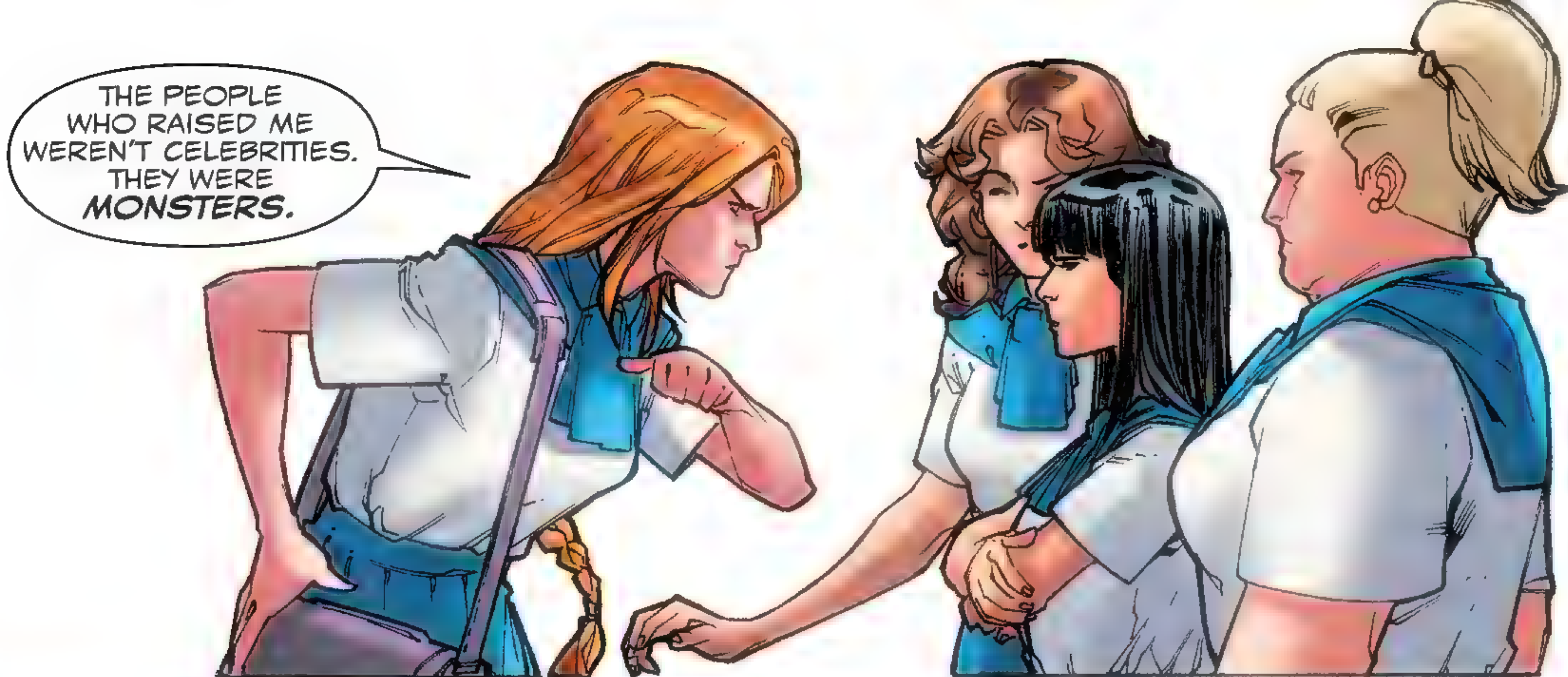
HEY!
I'M TALKING
TO YOU! DON'T
WALK AWAY
FROM US!

YOU CAN
PRETEND YOU'RE
BETTER THAN EVERYONE
ALL YOU WANT. DOESN'T
CHANGE THE FACT THAT
YOU'RE **LYING**
TRASH.



THEY WANT
TO PLAY? FINE.

YOU'RE
RIGHT.



THE PEOPLE WHO RAISED ME WEREN'T CELEBRITIES. THEY WERE **MONSTERS.**



THEY TORTURED ME, TORTURED ALL OF US. THEY KEPT US IN CAGES.

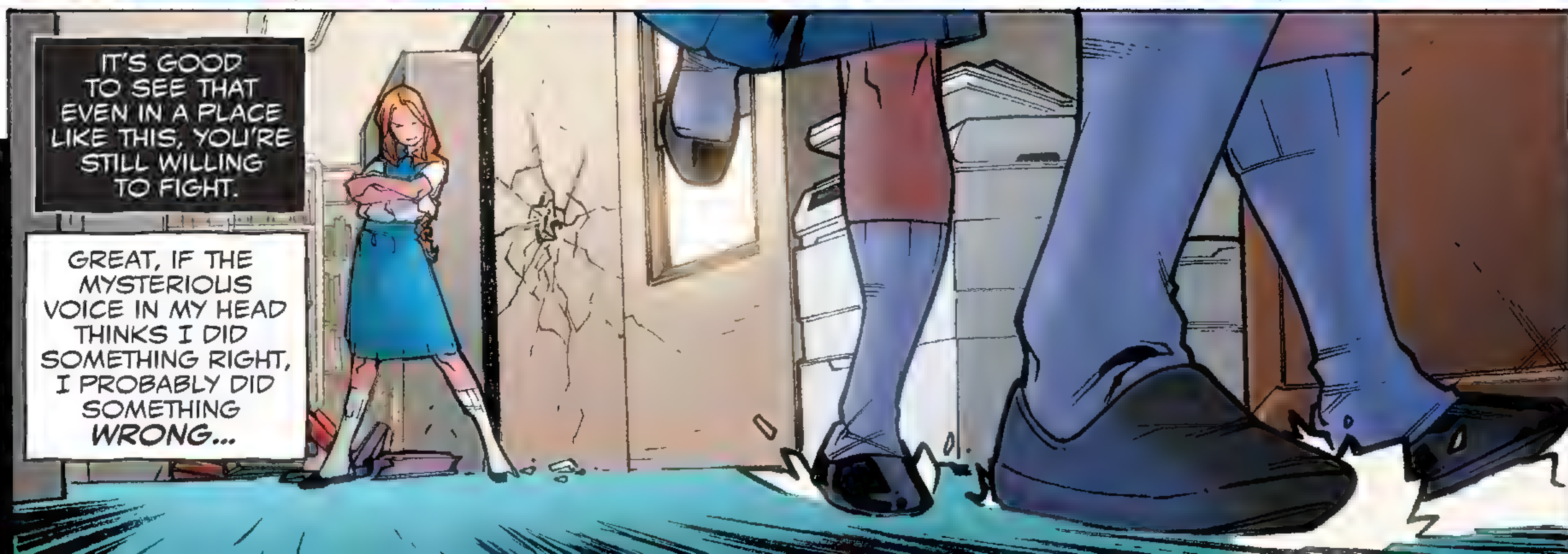
I DON'T KNOW. MAYBE THEY WERE RIGHT TO DO IT TO US.



KRACK

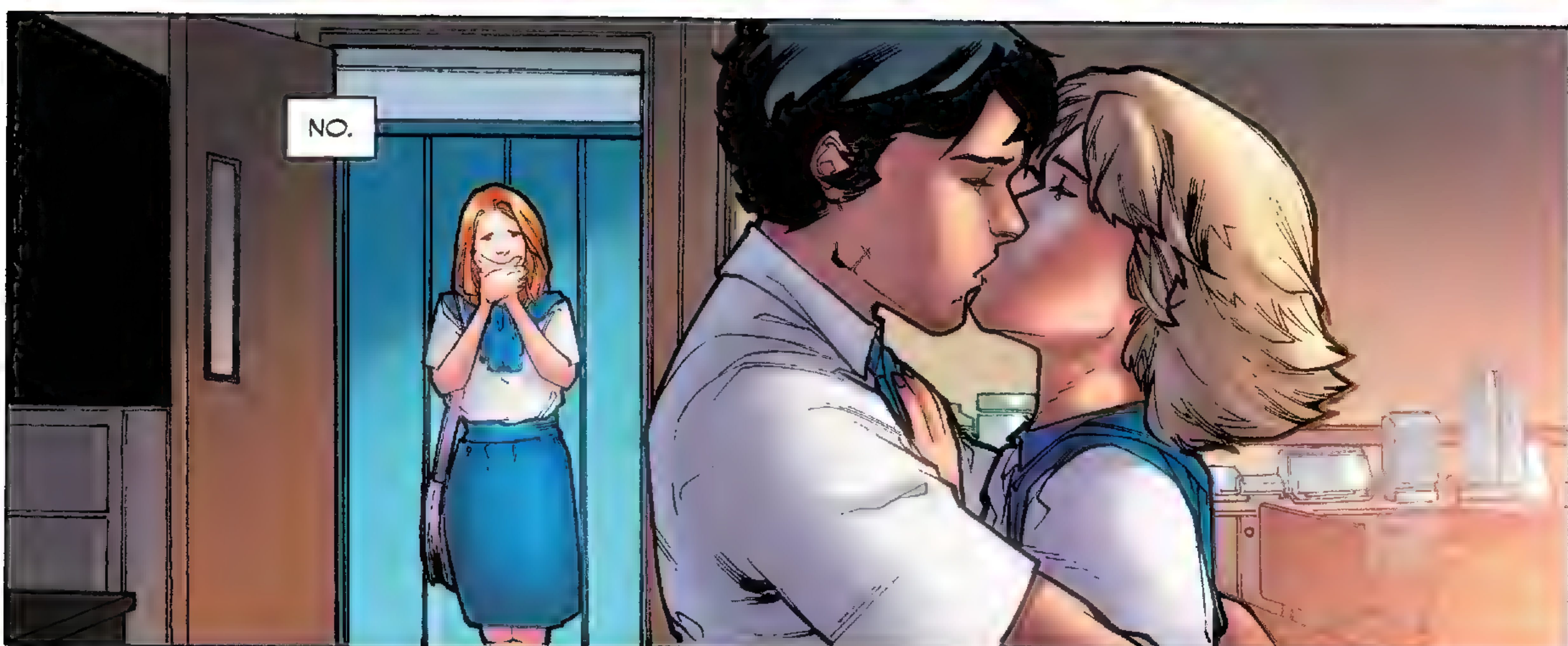
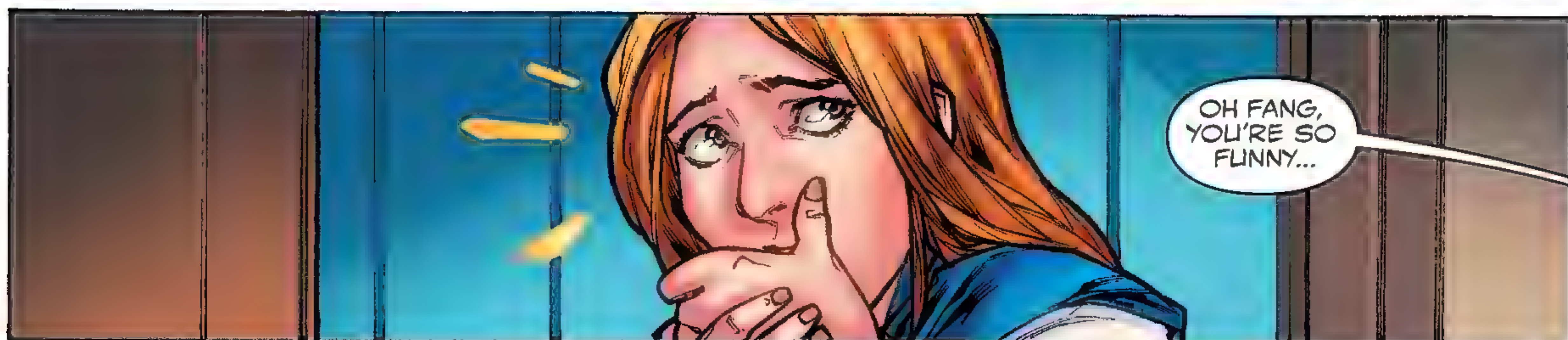
MAYBE WE'RE MONSTERS TOO.

WHA---?!

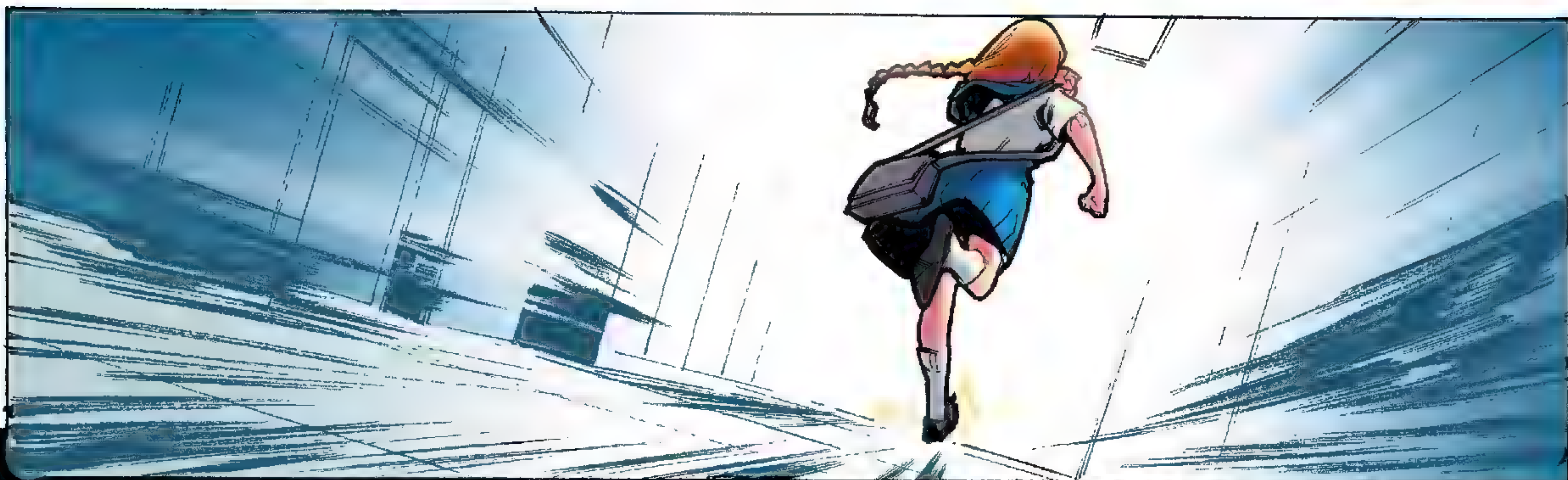


IT'S GOOD TO SEE THAT EVEN IN A PLACE LIKE THIS, YOU'RE STILL WILLING TO FIGHT.

GREAT, IF THE MYSTERIOUS VOICE IN MY HEAD THINKS I DID SOMETHING RIGHT, I PROBABLY DID SOMETHING **WRONG...**

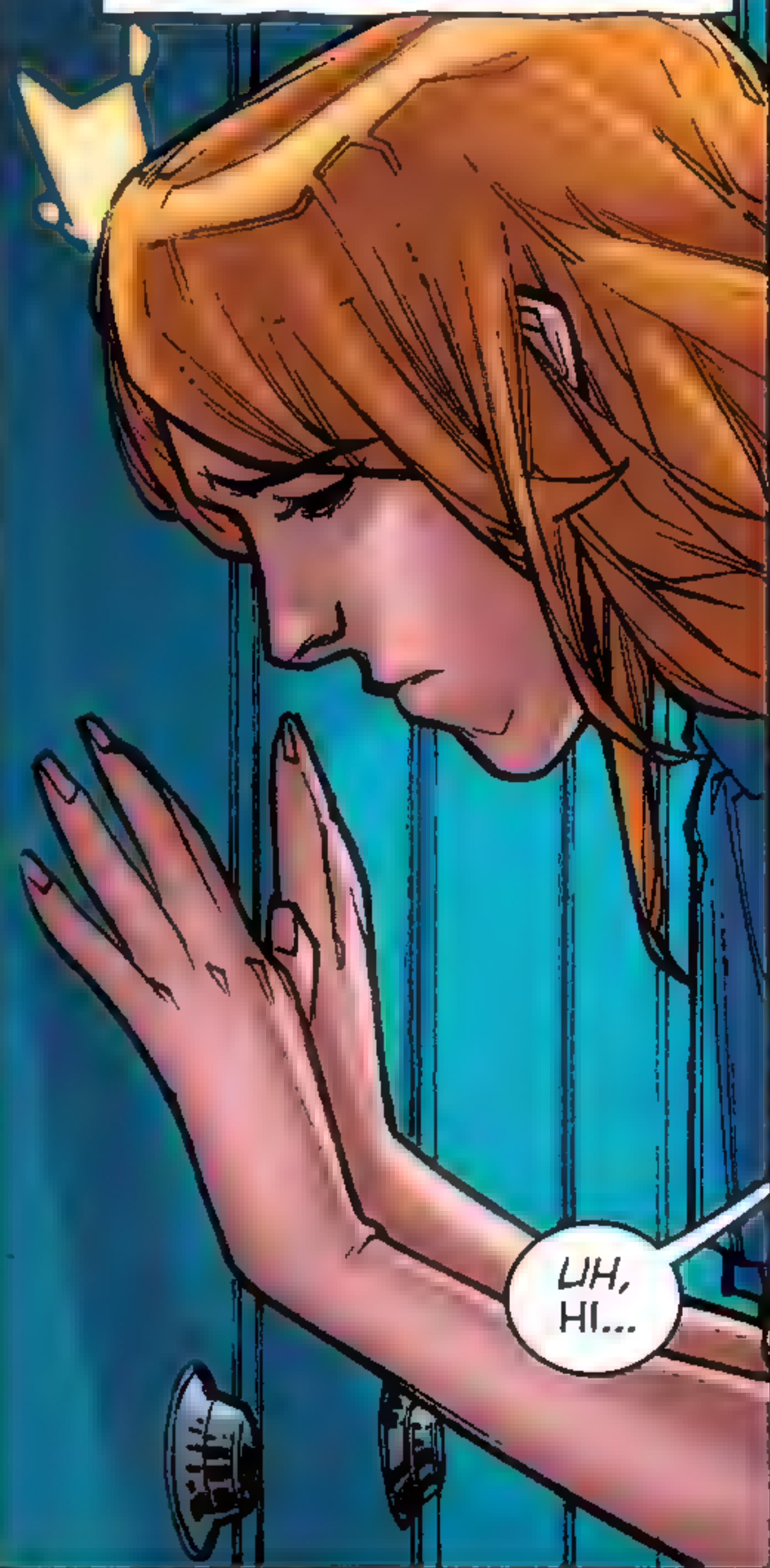


HE'S SUPPOSED TO...



AFTER FANG AND I KISSED...
DID I REALLY THINK FANG
WOULD *WAIT* FOR ME TO
FIGURE THINGS OUT?

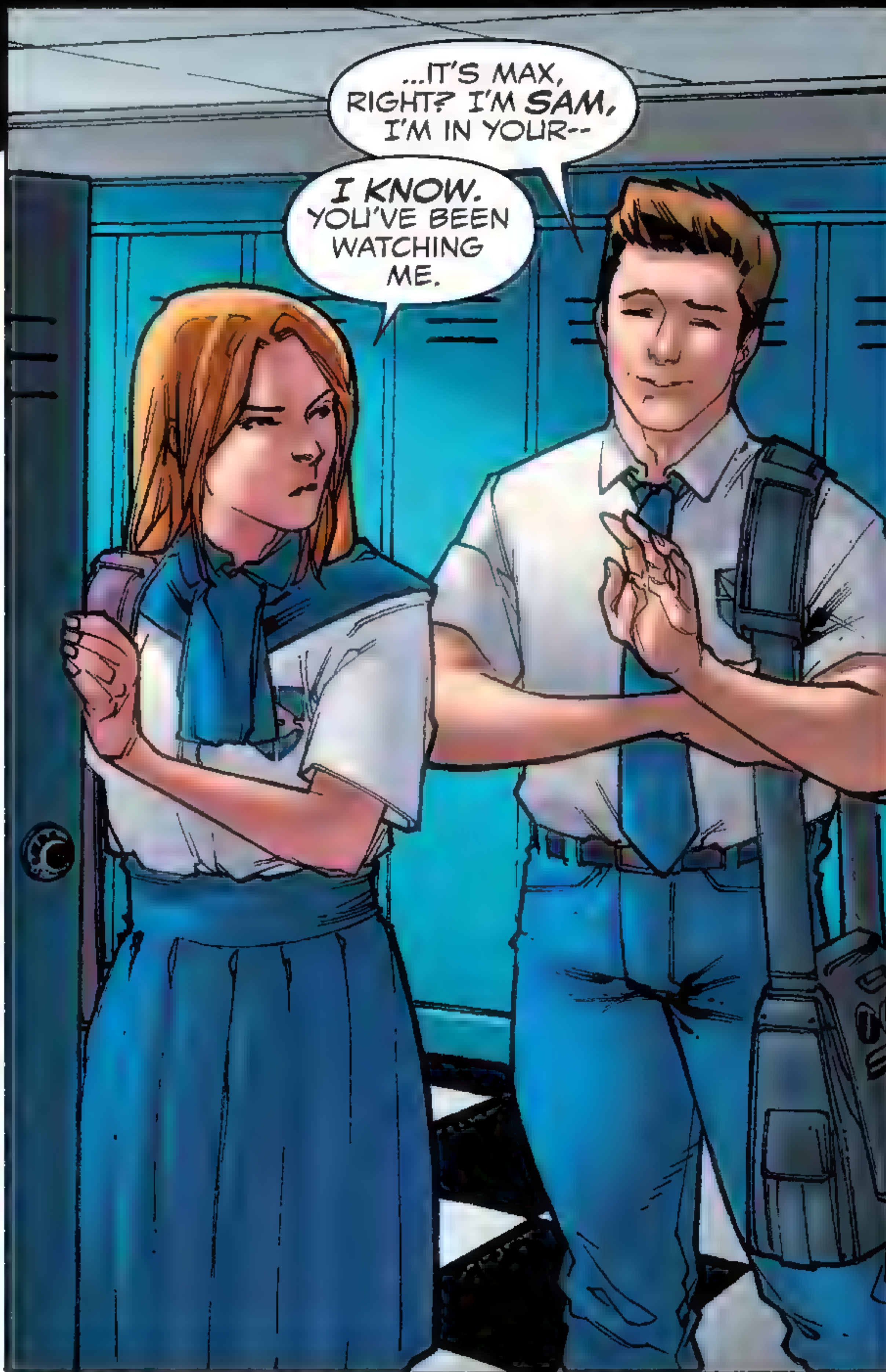
IF HE FINDS HIS FAMILY,
WE'LL BE SEPARATED
ANYWAY. MAYBE HE JUST
WANTS A HEAD START.



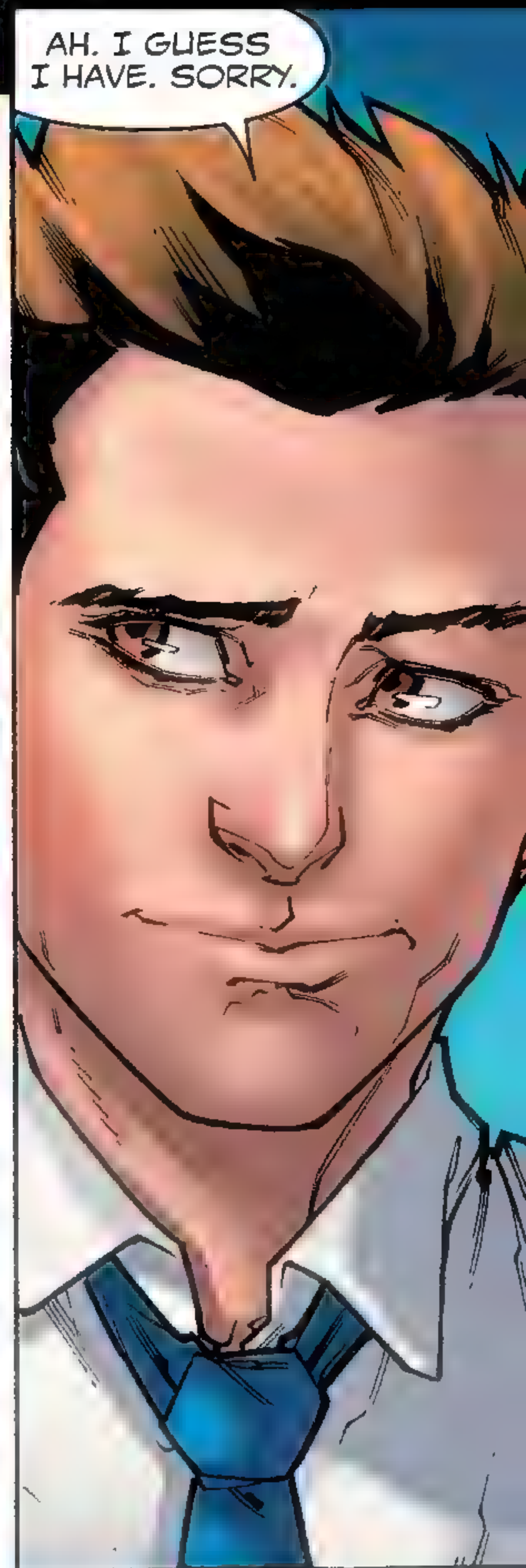
UH,
HI...

I KNOW.
YOU'VE BEEN
WATCHING
ME.

...IT'S MAX,
RIGHT? I'M *SAM*,
I'M IN YOUR--



AH. I GUESS
I HAVE. SORRY.



WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?

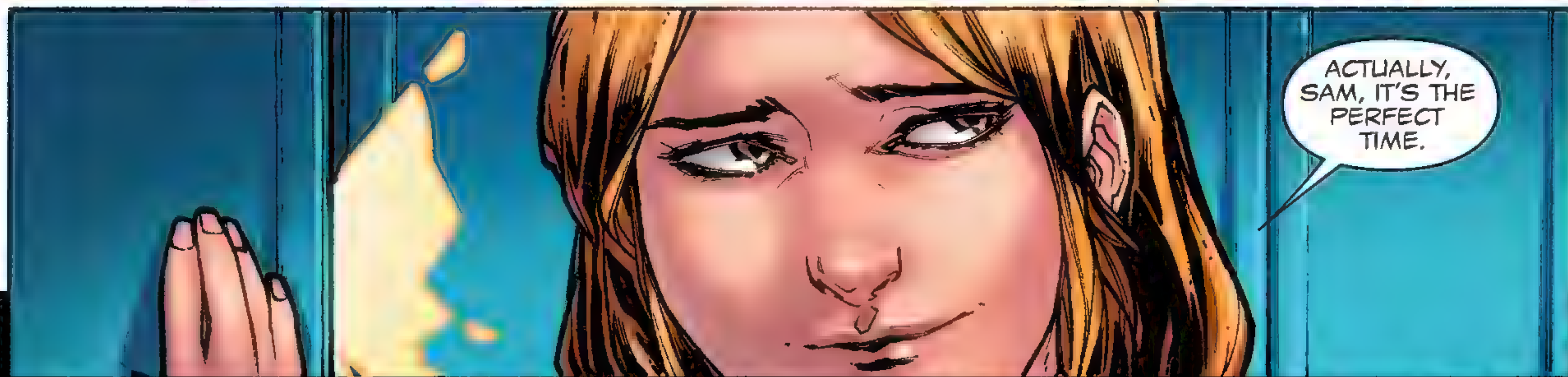
IS THIS A
BAD TIME?
YOU SEEM
UPSET.

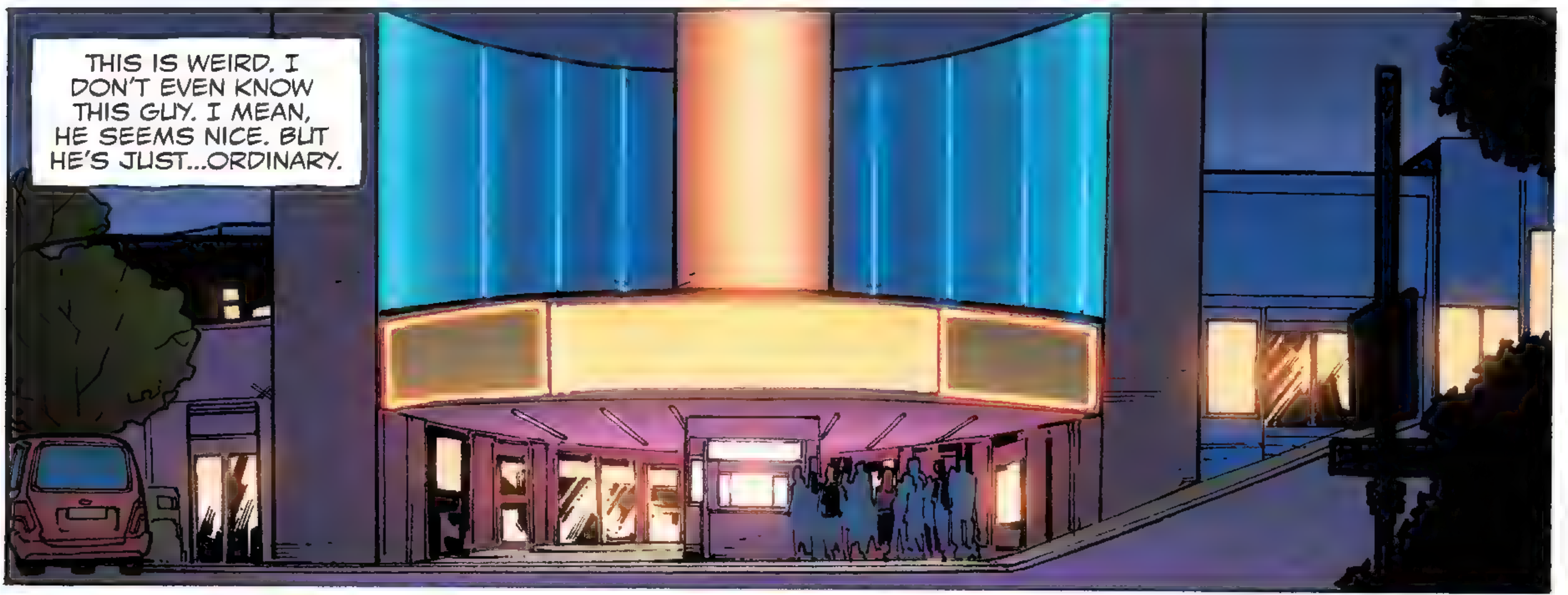
BUT...AH,
MAYBE WHEN
IT'S A BETTER
TIME...

...I COULD
TAKE YOU
TO SEE A
MOVIE?

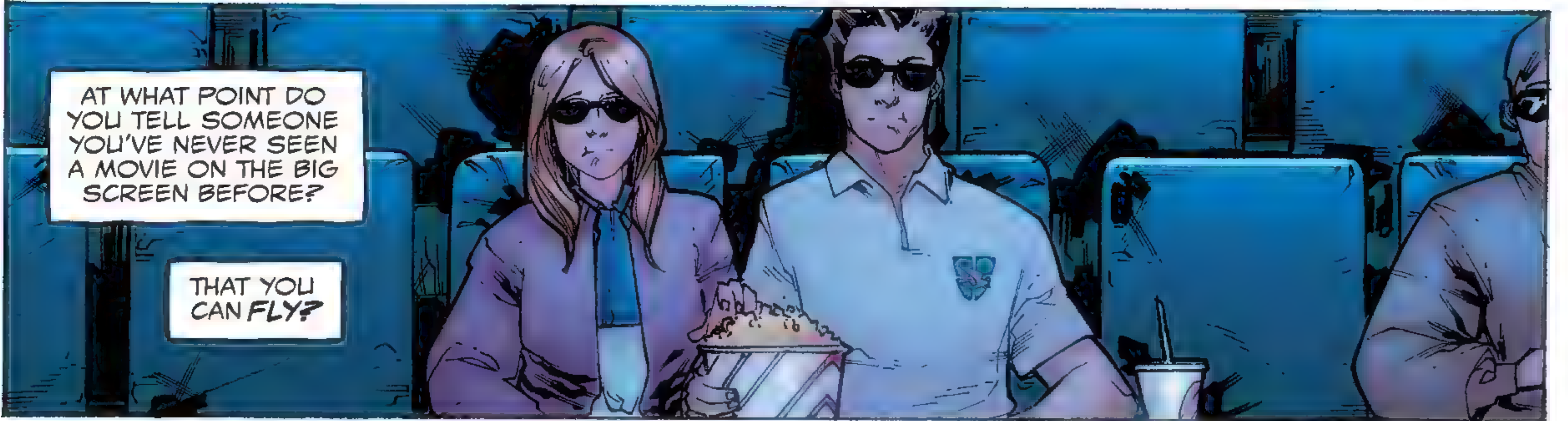


ACTUALLY,
SAM, IT'S THE
PERFECT
TIME.





THIS IS WEIRD. I DON'T EVEN KNOW THIS GUY. I MEAN, HE SEEMS NICE. BUT HE'S JUST...ORDINARY.



AT WHAT POINT DO YOU TELL SOMEONE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN A MOVIE ON THE BIG SCREEN BEFORE?

THAT YOU CAN FLY?



HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT EVERYTHING ABOUT ME AT WOODBROOK IS A LIE. IT'S NOT REALLY FAIR TO HIM, IS IT?

EVERYTHING OKAY? BRAIN FREEZE?

YEAH. I JUST--

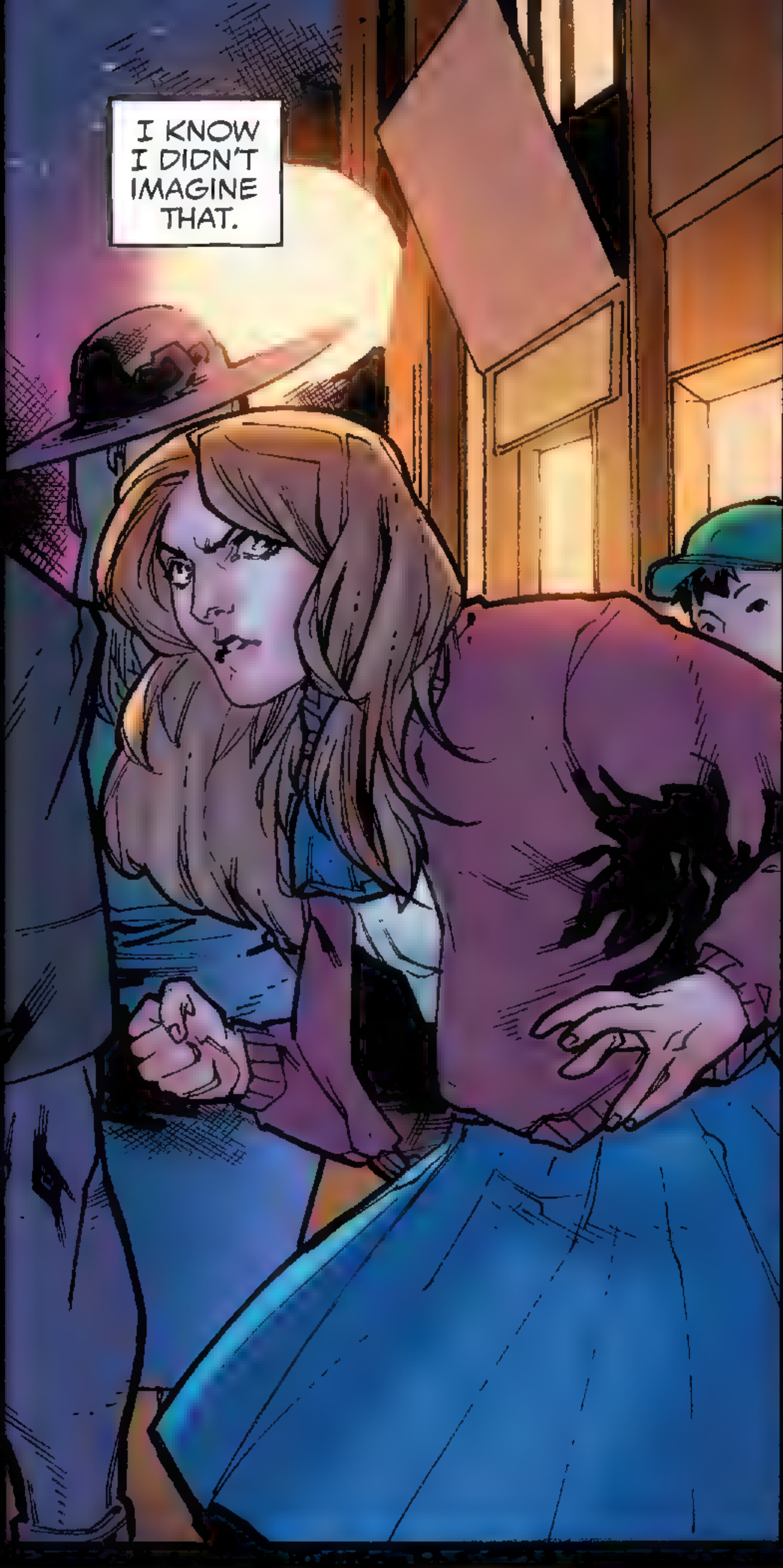


ERASER! HAS TO BE.



MAX! WHERE ARE YOU--

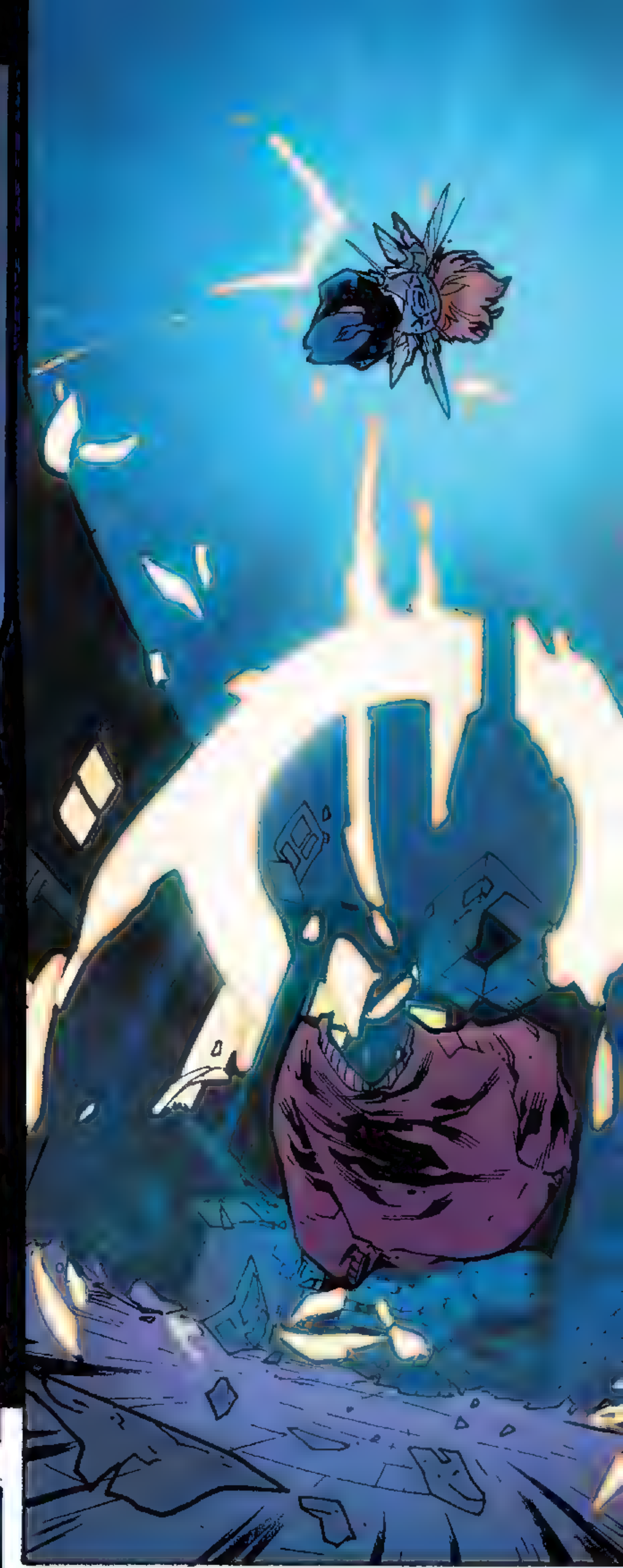
BE RIGHT BACK!



I KNOW
I DIDN'T
IMAGINE
THAT.

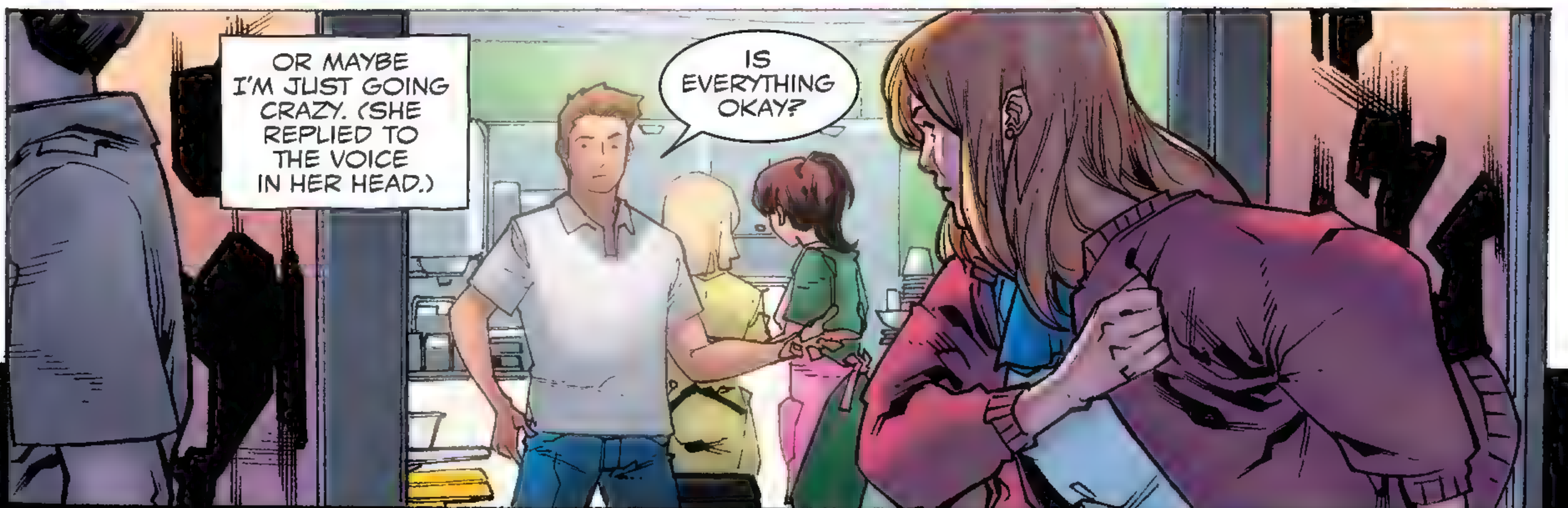


THEY'RE
FAST, BUT
SO AM I.



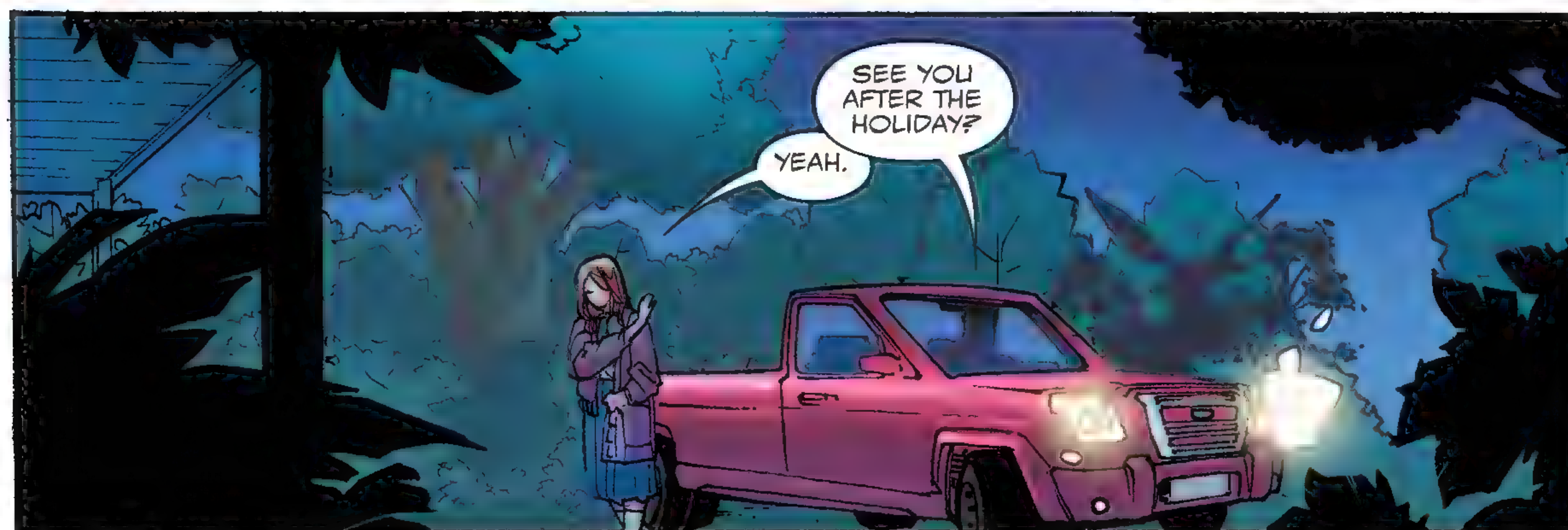
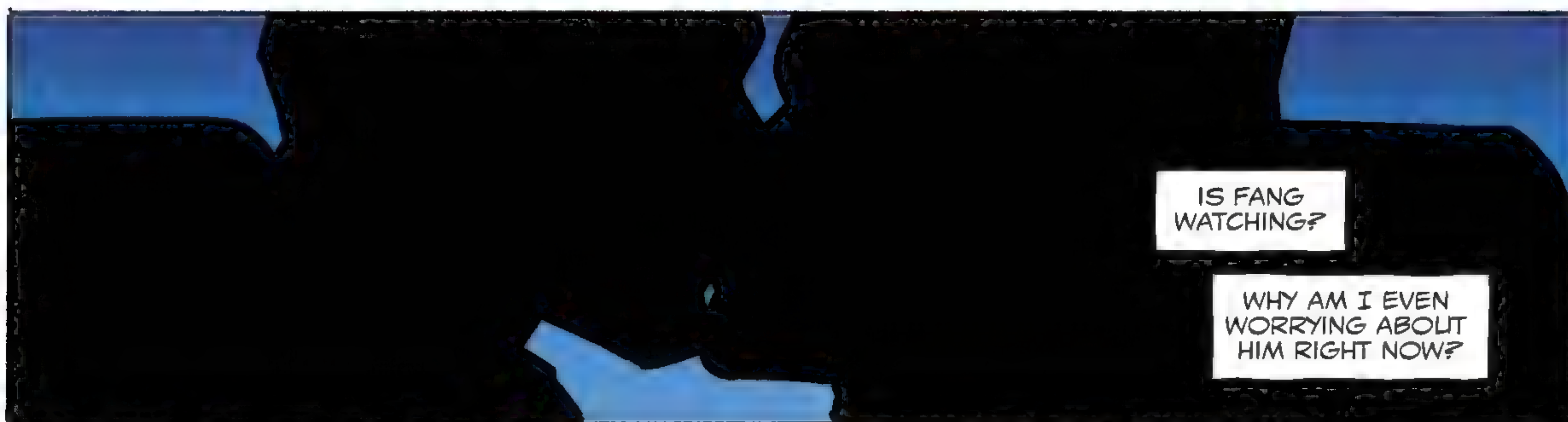
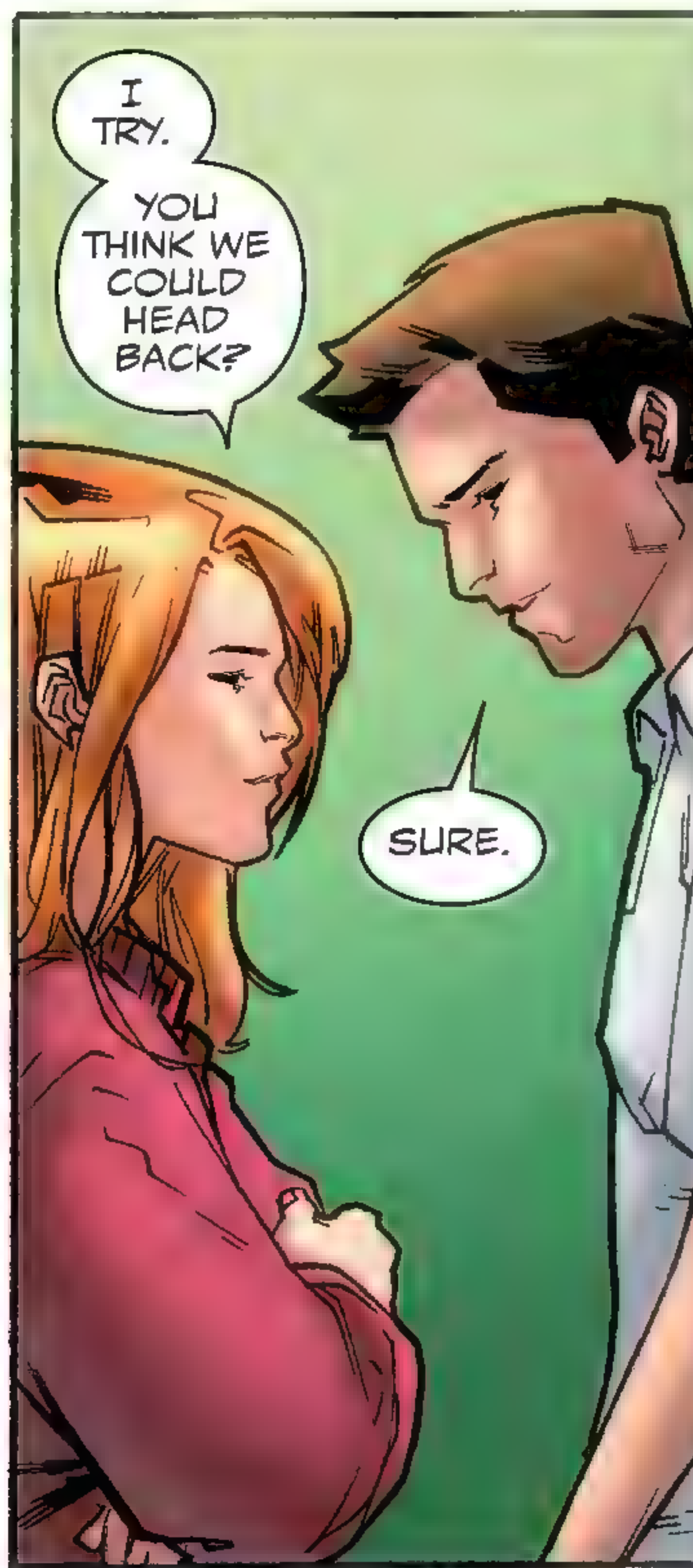
NOTHING.
WHAT THE
HELL IS
GOING ON?

YOU'RE
BEING WARY.
AS YOU
SHOULD.



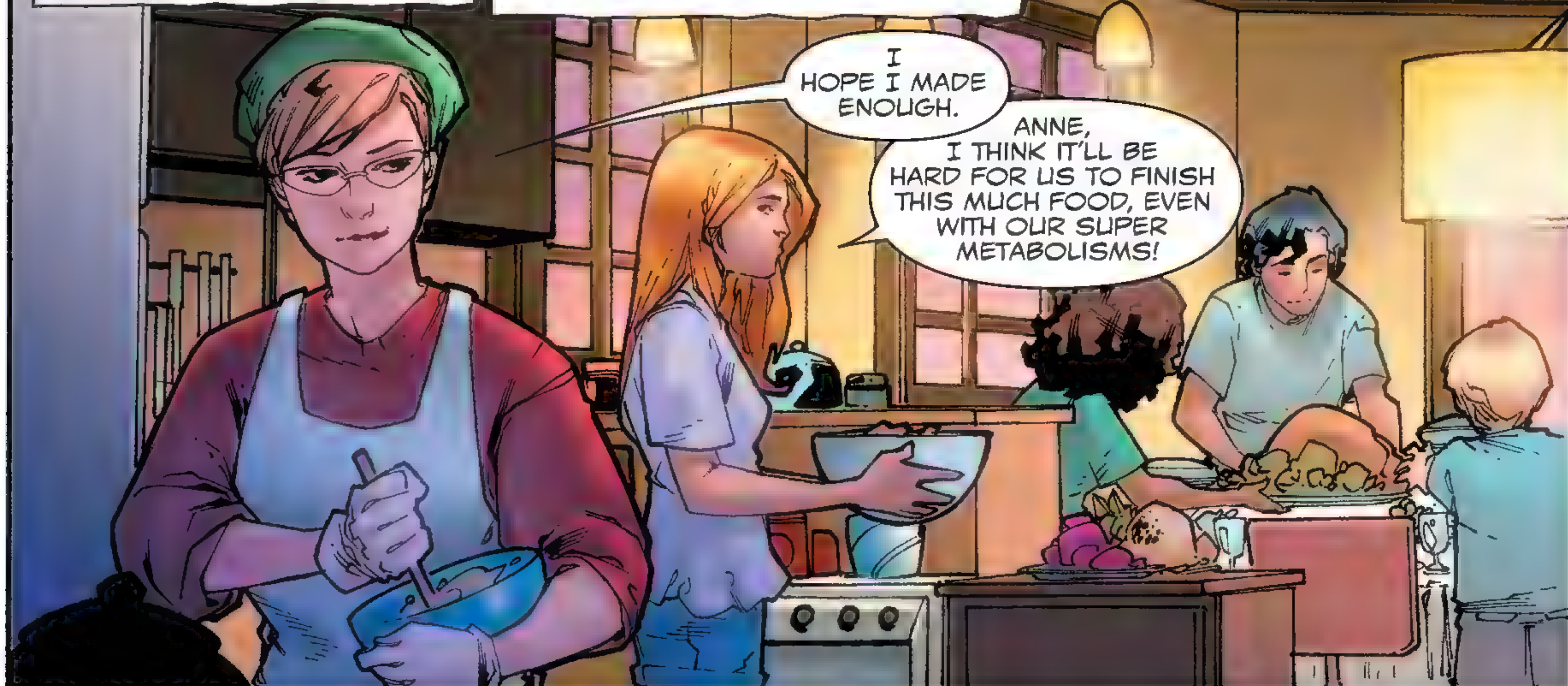
OR MAYBE
I'M JUST GOING
CRAZY. (SHE
REPLIED TO
THE VOICE
IN HER HEAD.)

IS
EVERYTHING
OKAY?



A CUTE BOY LIKES ME. I'M HAVING THANKSGIVING WITH MY FAMILY. IT'S ALL SO...**WEIRD**.

OF COURSE, LIVING ON THE RUN AND BEING ATTACKED BY FLYING **WOLF MONSTERS** IS A REGULAR DAY.



I HOPE I MADE ENOUGH.

ANNE, I THINK IT'LL BE HARD FOR US TO FINISH THIS MUCH FOOD, EVEN WITH OUR SUPER METABOLISMS!

I'M REALLY GOING TO HAVE TO REDO MY FOOD BUDGET, HUH? ESPECIALLY IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE HERE FOR THE LONG TERM.

LONG TERM?

IT'S TOO EARLY TO TELL THE OTHERS. DON'T WANT TO GET THEIR HOPES UP YET...

BUT I'VE BEEN LOOKING AT ADOPTION. YOU ALL WOULD BE ABLE TO STAY HERE, WITH ME. NO MORE RUNNING.

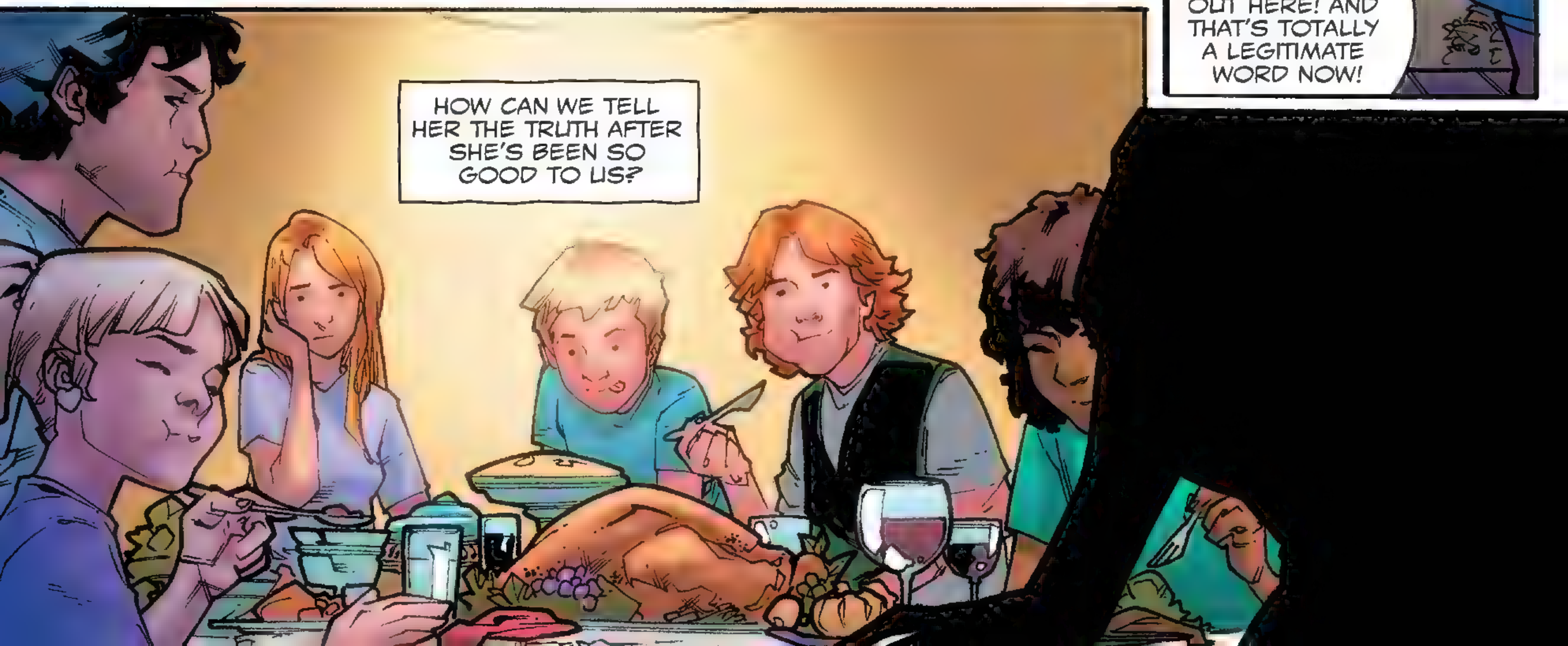
SHE DOESN'T KNOW. WE NEVER TOLD HER WE'RE LOOKING FOR OUR **ACTUAL** FAMILIES.

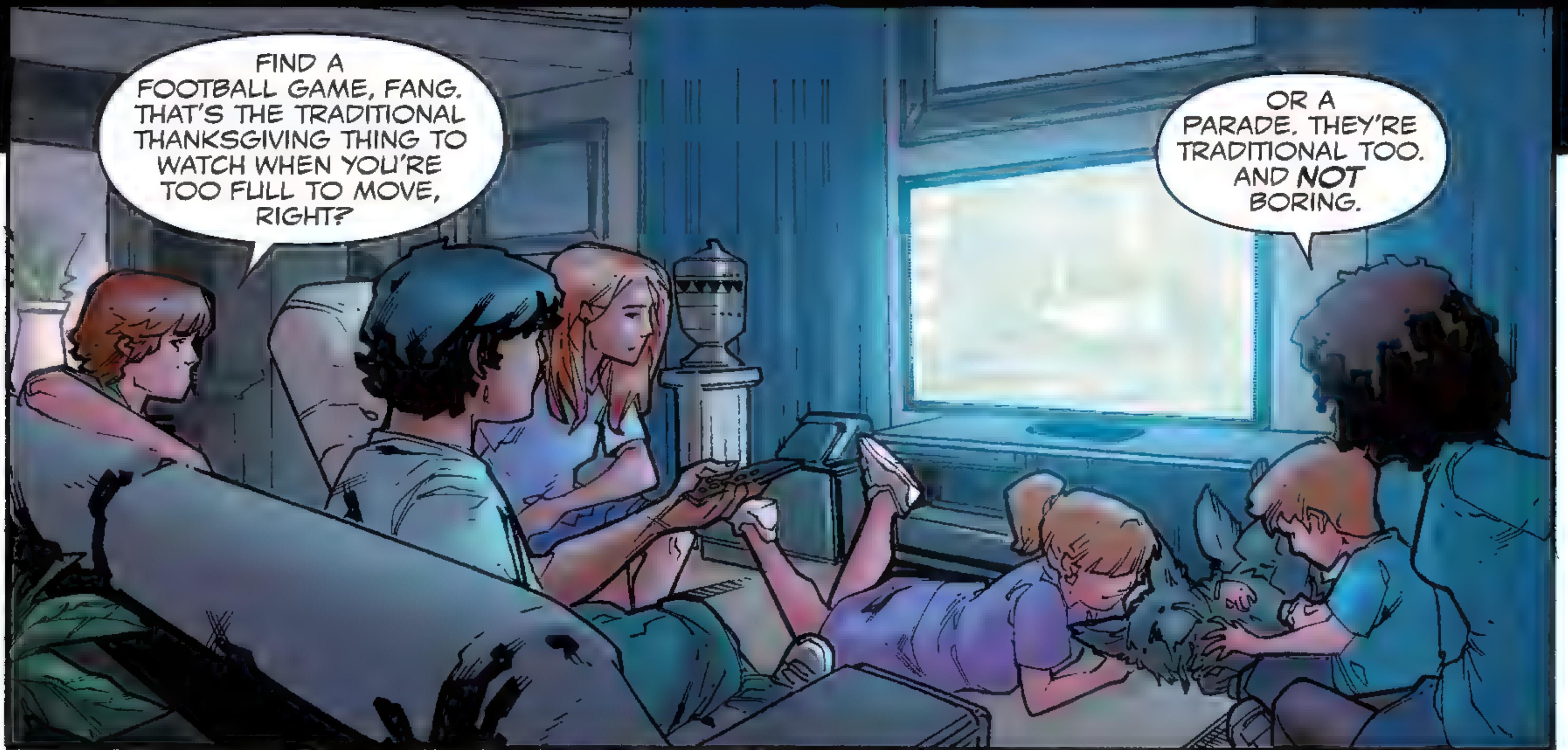
WE LET HER THINK THIS IS ALL REAL. THAT THIS WAS MORE THAN JUST A CONVENIENT STOP FOR US.

KEEP THIS QUIET FOR NOW, OKAY?

COME ON, GUYS! WE'RE GETTING HANGRY OUT HERE! AND THAT'S TOTALLY A LEGITIMATE WORD NOW!

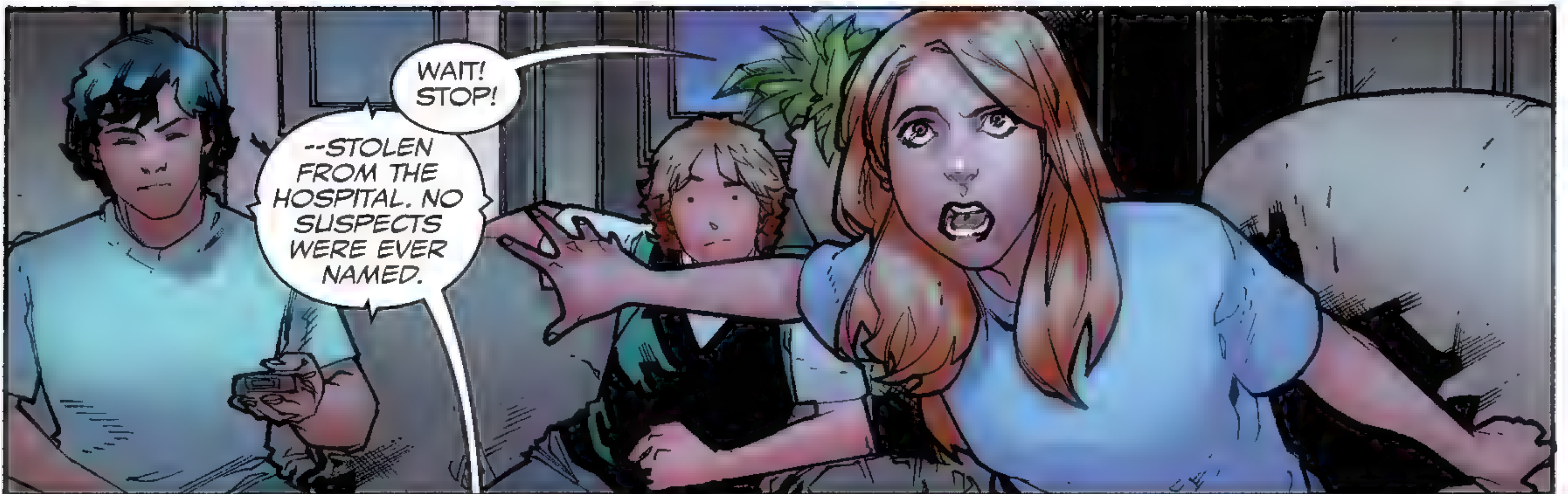
HOW CAN WE TELL HER THE TRUTH AFTER SHE'S BEEN SO GOOD TO US?





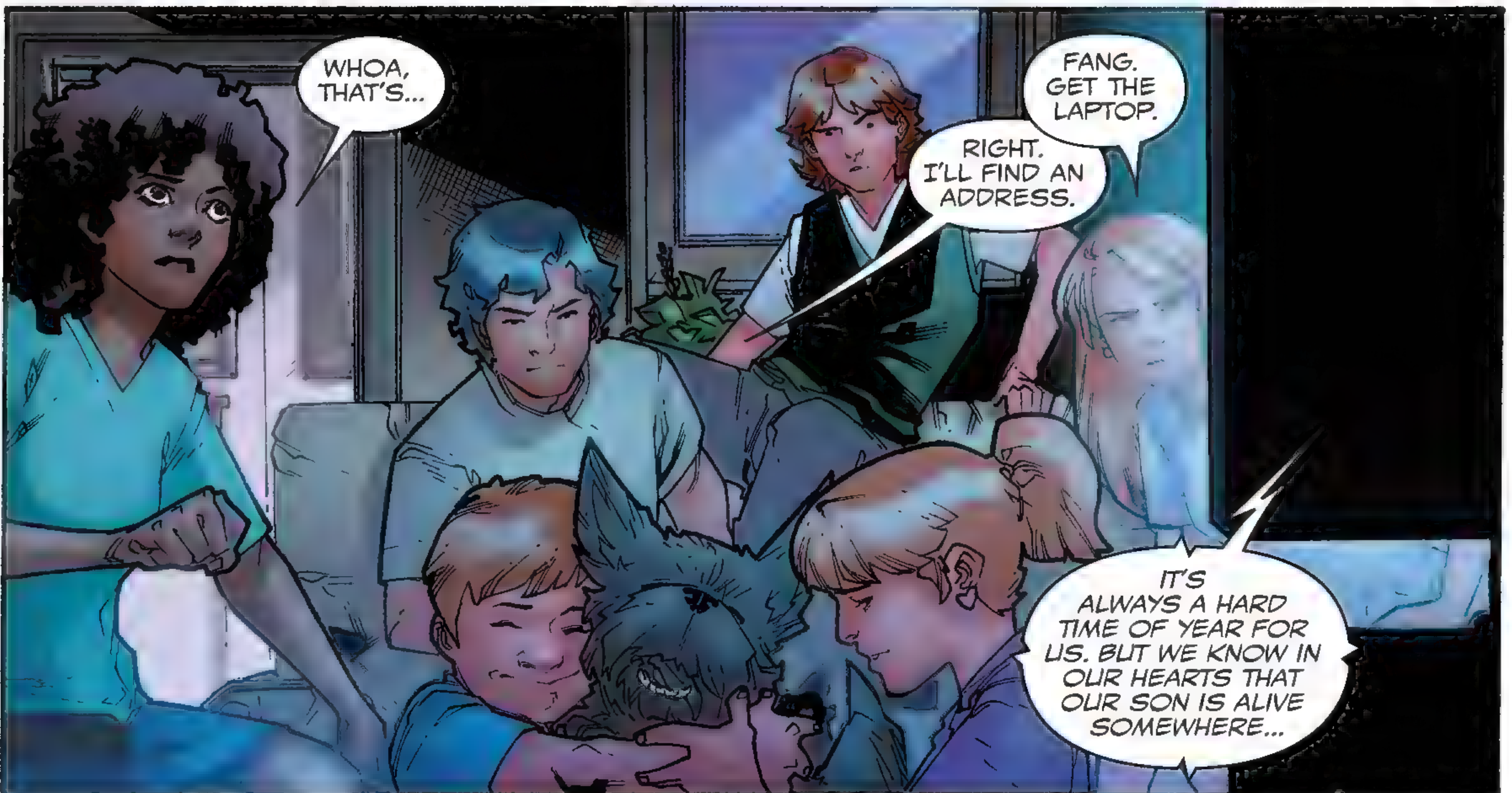
FIND A FOOTBALL GAME, FANG. THAT'S THE TRADITIONAL THANKSGIVING THING TO WATCH WHEN YOU'RE TOO FULL TO MOVE, RIGHT?

OR A PARADE. THEY'RE TRADITIONAL TOO. AND **NOT** BORING.



WAIT! STOP!

--STOLEN FROM THE HOSPITAL. NO SUSPECTS WERE EVER NAMED.

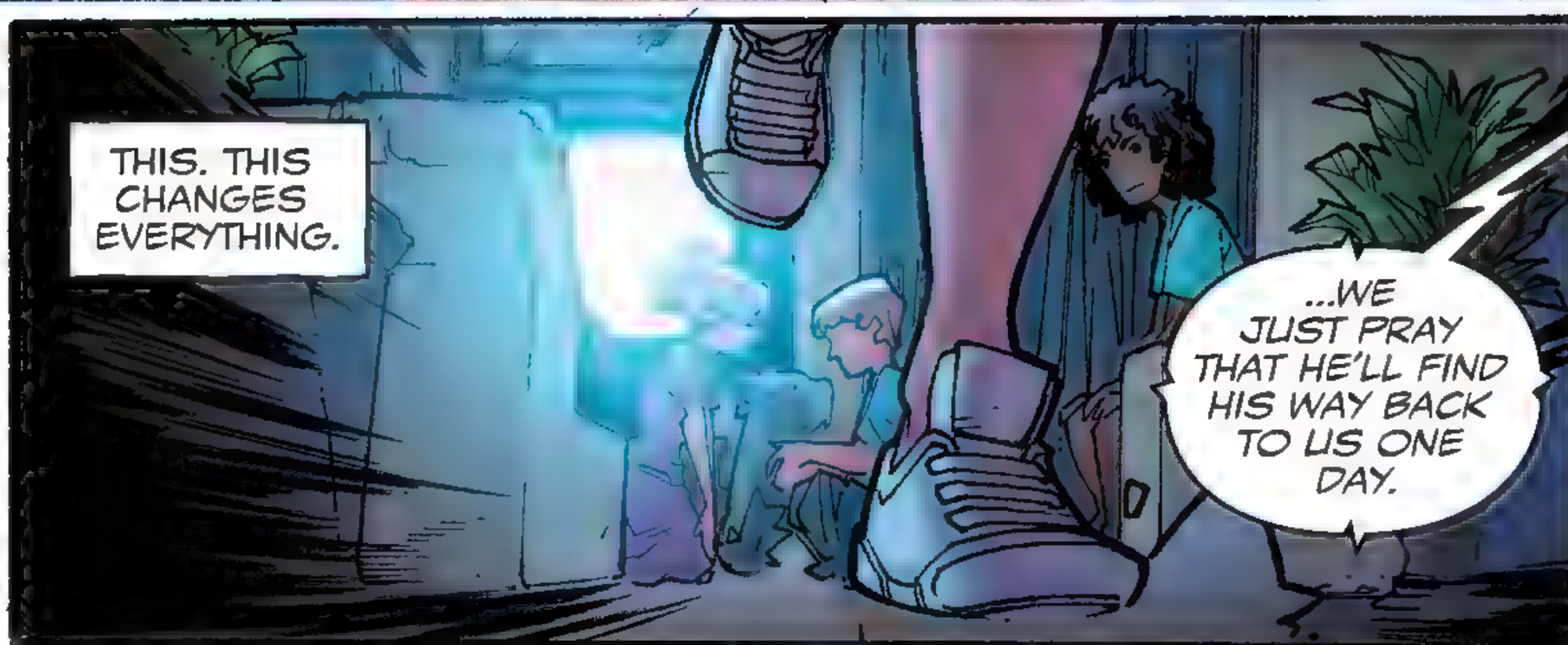


WHOA, THAT'S...

FANG. GET THE LAPTOP.

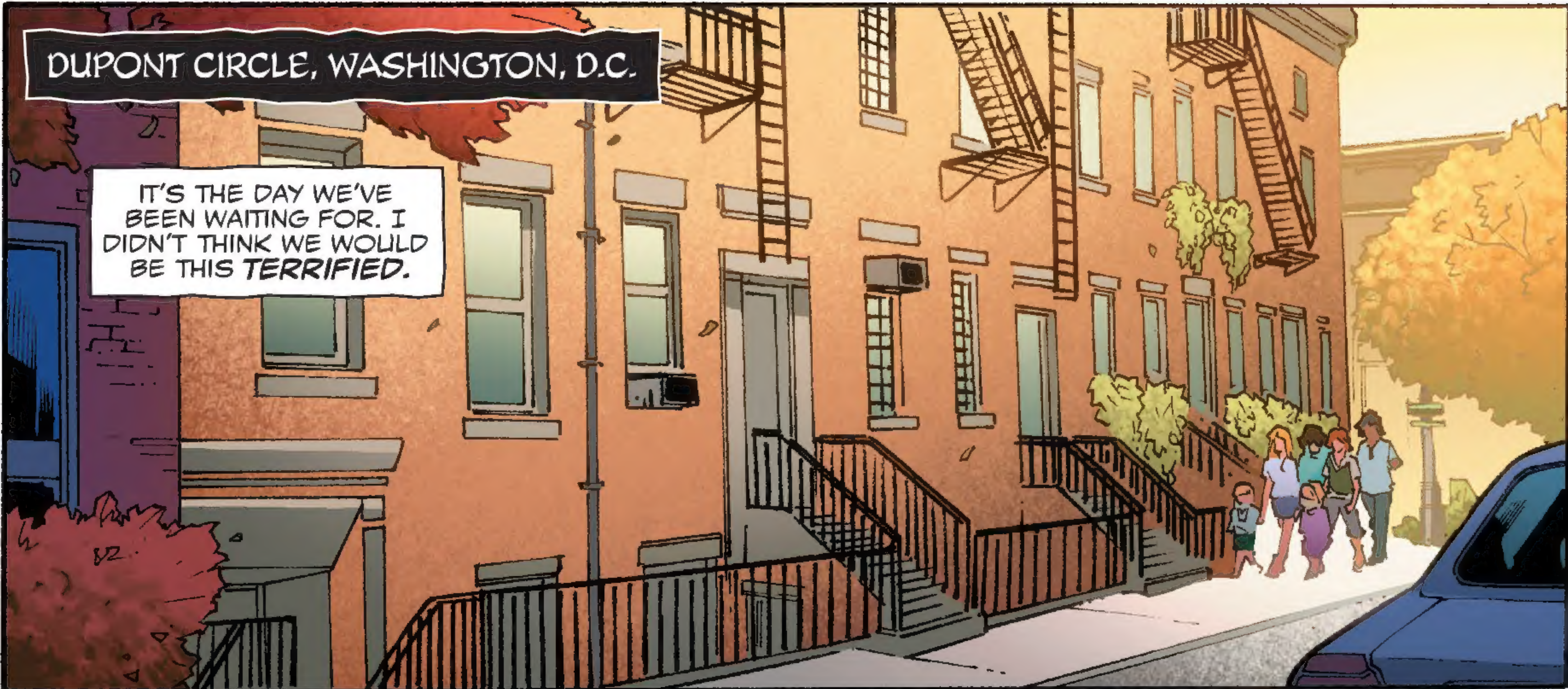
RIGHT. I'LL FIND AN ADDRESS.

IT'S ALWAYS A HARD TIME OF YEAR FOR US. BUT WE KNOW IN OUR HEARTS THAT OUR SON IS ALIVE SOMEWHERE...



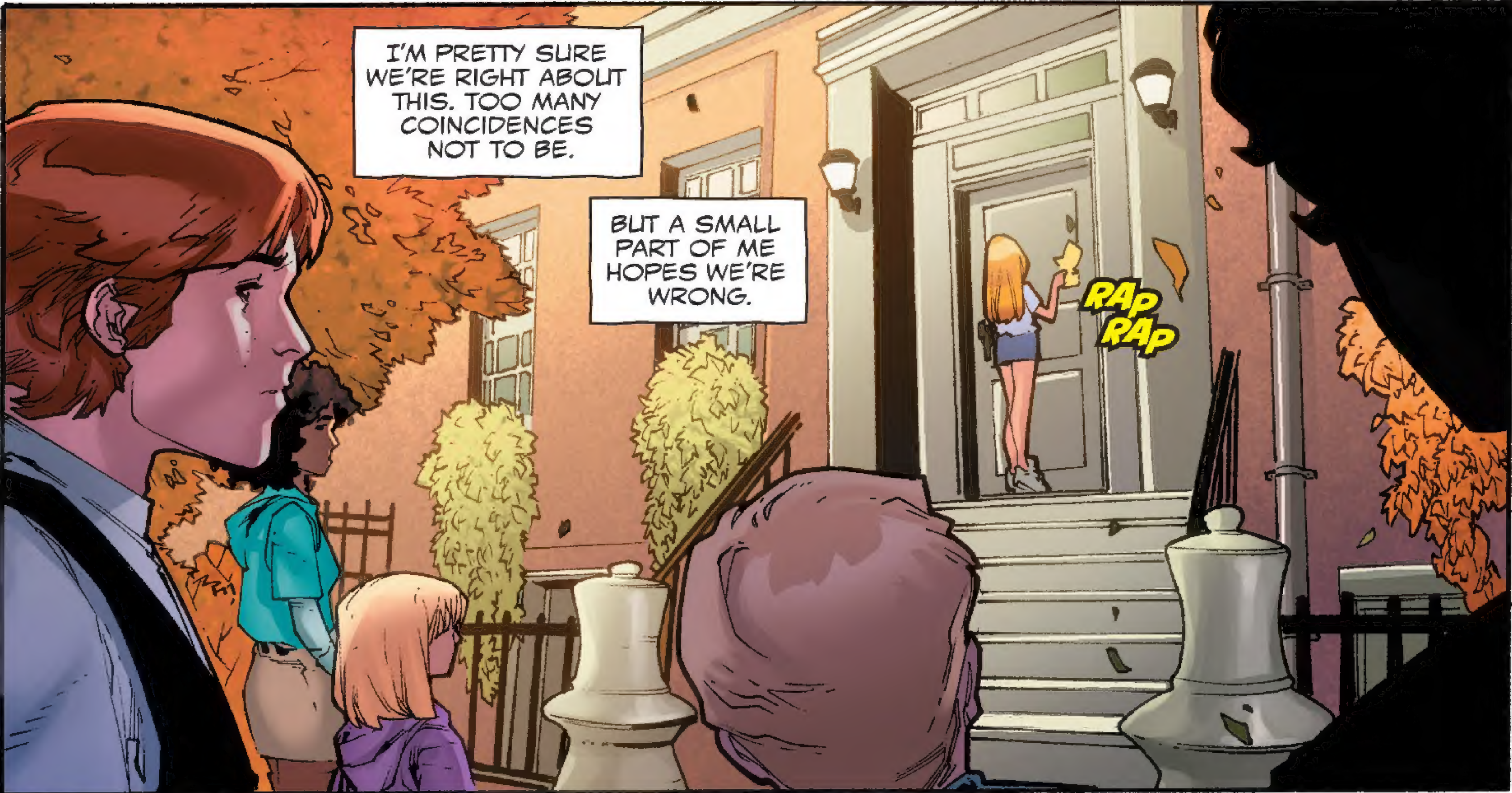
THIS. THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING.

...WE JUST PRAY THAT HE'LL FIND HIS WAY BACK TO US ONE DAY.



DUPONT CIRCLE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

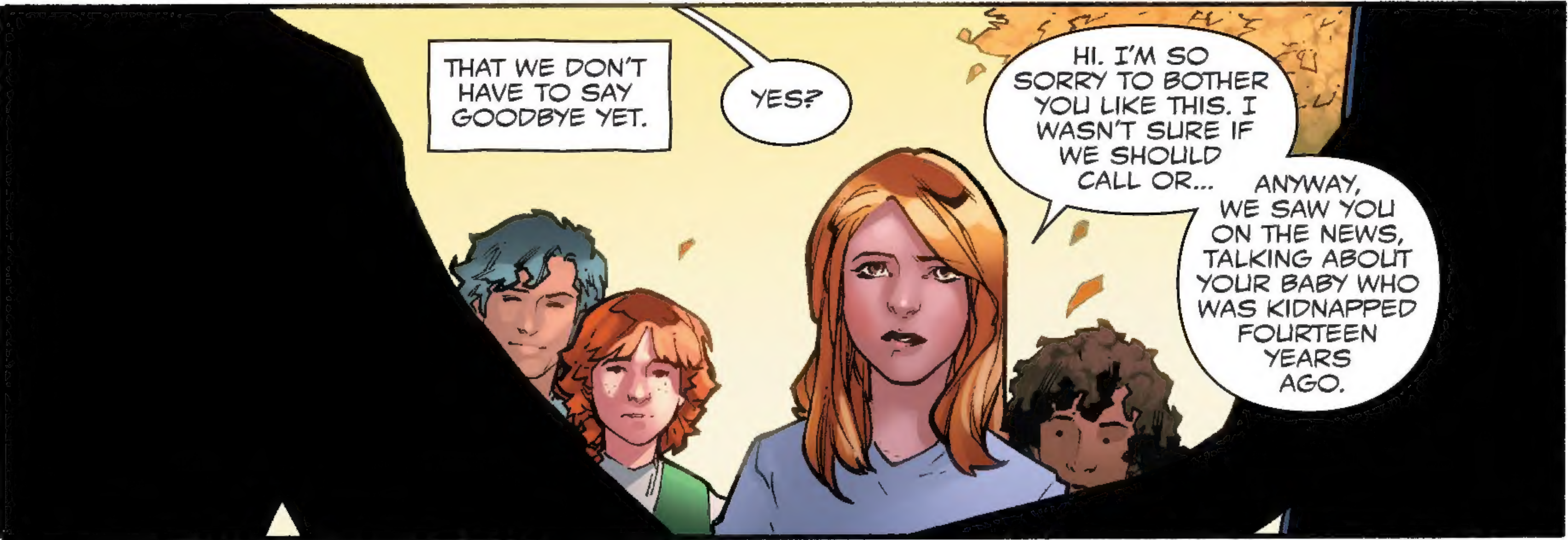
IT'S THE DAY WE'VE
BEEN WAITING FOR. I
DIDN'T THINK WE WOULD
BE THIS TERRIFIED.



I'M PRETTY SURE
WE'RE RIGHT ABOUT
THIS. TOO MANY
COINCIDENCES
NOT TO BE.

BUT A SMALL
PART OF ME
HOPES WE'RE
WRONG.

RAP
RAP



THAT WE DON'T
HAVE TO SAY
GOODBYE YET.


YES?

HI. I'M SO
SORRY TO BOTHER
YOU LIKE THIS. I
WASN'T SURE IF
WE SHOULD
CALL OR...

ANYWAY,
WE SAW YOU
ON THE NEWS,
TALKING ABOUT
YOUR BABY WHO
WAS KIDNAPPED
FOURTEEN
YEARS
AGO.



I'M NOT
REALLY SURE
HOW TO SAY THIS
WITHOUT SOUNDING
CRAZY OR
SOMETHING...



THIS IS
IGGY. AND WE
THINK HE'S YOUR
MISSING
SON.

TO BE CONTINUED...

JAMES PATTERSON

MAX RIDE

NEXT:



